

# EIGHTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1955



Published by  
THE RECORDING SECRETARY,  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR,  
MADRAS 20, INDIA

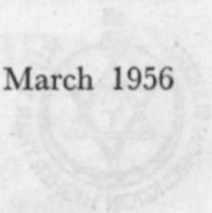
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GENERAL REPORT OF THE  
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The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20, India.)



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# PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

## TO THE 80TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

*Adyar, December 26, 1955*

BY N. SRI RAM, *President*

SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

Opening this 80th Annual Convention of our Society, I bid you all a most hearty welcome to its International Headquarters. Adyar is a real home to every Theosophist, for here more than anywhere else in the world is the true character of the Society represented as approximately as it can be. It is not possible for all members of such a world-wide Society, or even a large proportion of them, to be present here on any occasion, however important. But Adyar has a constant place in their thoughts and affection, and they turn to it as to a beacon-light which brings on its rays healing, refreshment and inspiration.

We see displayed in this Hall the names of all the National Societies, which are Sections of the International Society, with the year of their charters marked against each. On such an occasion as this we see also their flags, with the flag of the United Nations occupying the central place amongst them all. All this is but an outward and visible sign of the universality and the inward spiritual unity of the Society. Above the United Nations flag, which may be regarded as the flag of all humanity, runs the motto of the

Society: "There is no religion higher than Truth." The highest Truth attainable by any human being and the widest possible Brotherhood—not only with all humanity, but with all that lives—are the dual mark of the aspirations of every true Theosophist. It is idle to ask how far, as a Society, we have achieved these aims. It is for each of us to realize how far short of them we fall in our individual attitudes and in all that we attempt to do through the Theosophical Society and in other ways.

Inevitably each one of us tends to think in terms of his national thought, which is natural and good in so far as that thought expresses the genius of his nation or his national culture, but also in terms of the prejudices of his group and so-called national interests. But he is the true Theosophist who has realized that the welfare and happiness of each and every people on this earth are of equal importance. No one's happiness is less important, from the standpoint of the universal life and evolution, than the happiness of another. Suppose the members of the Society everywhere stood in all possible and practicable ways for this one

truth; would not the Society become at once a body distinguished from all other bodies by this very universality, and a potent instrument for achieving that human unity which is the next step of human progress? We would then be forerunning a new humanity made whole and unregimented by any external factors.

Every Lodge of the Theosophical Society exists in order to become a beacon-light in its own orient, the centre of a streaming influence carrying the white light which includes all beautiful colors. The Truth which we call Theosophy is a truth which underlies, overshadows and synthesizes all presentations, as our great Founder, H. P. B., has so magnificently attempted to prove in her *Secret Doctrine*. As Theosophists we owe a duty to humanity as well as the nation with which we happen to have a special tie; and while we may delight in and try to share the beauties of any particular religion or presentation with which we happen to be familiar, we must also in some measure be open to the influence of and render homage to the truth which is in others. It is not that everyone should study everything, which is neither possible nor necessary, but it is a matter of inwardly growing those wings of comprehension which will eventually envelop all life and all truth. The famous words, "The world is my country," have to-day a living significance which the phrase did not possess, except to the few, in any previous age.

The religion of a Theosophist must necessarily be the religion of Truth in the first instance, and only secondarily any of the containers or systems which hold some portion of the Truth. It seems to me that if the Society is to exert an influence on the changes that are now taking place, or are to take place in the immediate future, our studies must be equated with action, and our action with life. If Theo-

sophy is a spiritual Wisdom or *the* divine Wisdom, it must necessarily have a total effect on its votaries and modify all one's life and actions.

Studying the reports from the various Sections and Federations, one is struck by the fact that the problem confronting our earnest members varies from Section to Section. Obviously we are in the midst of an unprecedented world crisis which is not only material but also moral, marked by competing ideas in the midst of which we have to discover the way to a happier future.

"We are trying to find ourselves and solve the many problems that arise in our minds," writes the General Secretary for Finland, Miss Signe Rosvall. Our special work, says Mr. Rohit Mehta, the General Secretary for India, is "to bring an ideological clarification to the people, to help them to discover the fundamental values, to be steady in the midst of the tremendous ideological impacts of this time." Dr. Gasco, the General Secretary for Italy, surveying the forces striving hard to win the allegiance of the people, especially in his country, speaks of the need to counteract the tendencies which cause "the distortion of the intellectual principle," and have brought the world to a condition in which, devoid of the restraining influences of the old ideals, humanity is being pushed to the edge of a precipice. It is not necessary for me here to multiply such quotations, which indicate how timely was the proclamation of the Wisdom, when the world was still on the eve of the present extraordinary developments, and how important and needed is the guidance which it can give precisely at such a time as this.

There are of course other areas where, even though the same world-wide issues may be present, conditions are somewhat more settled and call for a different approach on the part of those who seek



to spread the influence of the Wisdom. Mr. J. S. Perkins, the National President of the Theosophical Society in America, begins his report with the remark that our approach, even with regard to the most complex questions, has to be simple and practical and expressed in "life-renewing terms". What is needed in the Lodges is not an "indifferent Theosophy" but an active interest based on "an awareness of the eternal Law". I may here remark that *Dhamma* or Law, including both the universal law and the law that works itself out through each individual being, is the other word for Wisdom, according to the Lord Buddha's teachings. It is the law that is embodied in the fundamental frame of things, perceivable in the processes of life, death, renewal and the whole course of evolution.

What a far cry from the truths of such a fundamental Wisdom are the ideas of various psychic, spiritualistic and pseudo-occult cults with which in some countries Theosophy tends to be mixed up in the minds of some people. It is of vital consequence for the future of the Society and its proper work that our approach to things of fundamental importance should remain unconfused by any element which caters subtly or not so subtly to the weakness that is in human nature for the emphasis of oneself, that self which has eventually to be completely transcended.

It is gratifying to come across Lodges here and there which stand out by their exemplification of the spirit of Theosophical brotherliness. The report from Mexico sent by the General Secretary, Señor Adolfo de la Peña Gil, mentions one such which he calls "a perfect Lodge," judged by the mutual love among its members and service to others. It is a great encouragement to know that there are such Lodges. There are Lodges in every Section which pull a greater weight than others, and there are Lodges which can

look back upon a long record of work, sustained in spite of inevitable vicissitudes and the difficulties which always beset every forward movement. It is easy to make members, by saying to the people whom we approach that Theosophy is at bottom the same as what they already profess. But members who are brought in by any such compromise with Truth do not usually stay long, and even while they stay in the Society are likely to be more a dead-weight or hindrance than a help. On the other hand, we should welcome anyone, however simple and unimportant he may seem, if his attraction is to the pure Truth as it has been stated or as we may be able to state it.

"There has been unwonted activity in Lodges in Canada," writes Colonel E. L. Thomson, the General Secretary, and after referring particularly to the Lodges in Western Canada which he was able to visit last year, he says that the prospects are bright, encouraging the hope that "The Theosophical Society in Canada will eventually bloom and blossom like the proverbial fruit-tree." The membership in East Africa has gone up during the year from 325 to 624, nearly 95%, a phenomenal increase which must be due partly to the conditions which exist there, the need felt for the sustaining influence of the Wisdom, but is also attributed by the General Secretary, Mr. V. H. Kapadia, to the work of Mr. Sitaram Upadhyaya from Gujerat in India who toured that Section for several months. Mr. Greter Fells, the General Secretary for Iceland, a far-away Section, little visited by Theosophical workers from outside, reports that the teaching and ideas of Theosophy are steadily "filtering into the national consciousness as a fructifying stream from high places". One of the most active Sections, also a little out of the way, to which I would like to refer here, is the Philippines Section, of which the National

President and guiding spirit is Dr. Benito F. Reyes. He was the head of the Philosophy department in the University of Manila, but because of his association with Theosophy and the work of the Theosophical Society in so responsible a capacity, he has been made to relinquish the post he had held in the University, surprising as this may seem, and he may now only teach English, and not Philosophy in any of its branches. An event like this makes us realize that there is not as much freedom in these days of boasted advance as perhaps we like to imagine. Dr. Reyes is one of those, of whom there are many all over the world, to whom Theosophy means more than any other influence in life, whose lives have been immeasurably enriched by it. We cannot but specially honor those whose sacrifice sets an example to their fellow-members of loyalty to Theosophy and the Theosophical Society.

I am glad to advert here to the annual report from France, because it strikes a note of serene hope, following the dissensions which have agitated the members of that Section during the last six years. Another Section where there have been differences of a disturbing nature, but which is now able to report a state of unity, is Chile in South America. Thanks to the tact and wisdom of Señor L. T. Alarçon, till recently the General Secretary, and his co-workers, the differences which existed there have been happily smoothed out and there is to-day in that Section "an atmosphere of fraternal peace, union and collaboration". I personally have the trust that in a Society which stands for so beautiful a teaching as Theosophy and has had the inestimable blessing of having been started under the inspiration of the Masters of the Wisdom, all dissensions and differences due to our human frailties and ignorance must disappear sooner or later like mist before

the sunshine. Even though I sometimes receive from one Section or another reports which put me in a perplexing position and are calculated to cause disheartenment, if not despair, I am able, because of this faith, to remain on the whole unperturbed and serene. At any rate, if there are clouds in one or two quarters, there is sunshine in others. In England, which has always been an important Section from the standpoint of its strength as well as influence, Mr. C. R. Groves, the General Secretary, speaks of "the steady work that has gone on in Federations, Lodges, and Centres," week by week, the effect of which, as he says, must be truly "incalculable towards Theosophizing the world".

A notable event of the year was the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Australian Section, which took place at the Section Convention held during Easter in Sydney. Miss Emma Hunt, the Society's Recording Secretary, was requested by Mr. J. L. Davidge, General Secretary, and his Council to preside on the occasion, and after the Jubilee, she undertook a tour through the main Theosophical centres in Australia and New Zealand, which gave a welcome impetus to the work in these Sections. An event of a similar nature, to which Mr. Rohit Mehta refers in his report, is the completion of sixty years of Theosophical work at Banaras. Banaras was made the headquarters of the Indian Section in 1895, and the first Convention of the Indian Section was held there in October 1896.

Following the Diamond Jubilee Convention in Sydney, a summer school was held by the Australian Section at a nearby seaside resort. Such summer schools have proved very popular in many places, in Europe, for instance, where they are held at different places to suit the linguistic needs of the members. Besides the two regional summer schools, one for the



German-speaking Sections at Pichl, Austria, and the other for the French-speaking Sections at Louëtte St. Pierre in Belgium, there were summer schools this year in Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany, all of which I had the good fortune to be able to attend. In New Zealand they had a summer school during Easter at Orewa. At "Olcott," in the United States of America, following the practice of previous years a summer school was held after the annual Convention, attended by some 300 members from all parts of the Section. There were similar gatherings in India, at Adyar and Baroda, respectively, but styled regional camps. Besides these camps, there have been in India as well as England many study camps and week-ends at various times, all well attended. There are a number of permanent camps in the United States, and a camp at Camberley in England, used for activities of different sorts. The activities at all these camps and week-ends undoubtedly stimulate the work of the Sections in which they take place.

It may not be known to very many members that there is a Spanish edition of the Adyar THEOSOPHIST, namely, *El Teosofa*, being brought out regularly, thanks to the initiative and enthusiasm of Señor Salim Alfredo Wehbe. Although this Spanish edition is produced in Argentina, it has a field of circulation in all the Latin American Sections. I understand from reports which I have received that although several important Theosophical works have been translated into Spanish—the Mexican Section only recently brought out a translation of Mr. Pavri's *Theosophy in Questions and Answers*—many important Theosophical works are not yet available in Spanish. An attempt is therefore now being made under the lead of Señor C. Rimini of Rosario, Argentina, to co-ordinate the efforts being made in different Sections

and complete the work of translating them. Another country where there is a great need for translations is Indonesia. However, they have made a beginning there with the translation of *At the Feet of the Master*, and marked the occasion by giving a copy free to each member of the Section. While on the subject of publications, I might mention the interesting fact that in Mexico they distribute 48,000 copies of the review *Dharma* among 8,000 permanent readers, although the number of members of the Section is less than 600. The Young Theosophists have active groups in many Sections. In Europe, they bring out a magazine called *Enthousiasme* in three languages, English, French and German. There are of course other journals conducted by Young Theosophist groups, in addition to the various Section journals through which there is a steady propagation of Theosophical ideas. Although these journals do important work, almost every Section feels the need for good lectures and the help that can be given through personal contact by a lecturer who is deeply imbued with the Theosophical spirit.

It is not possible for me to refer to the activities in each and every Section, because our work has spread so widely. The numerical strength of the Society stands at about 33,300 members, registering an increase of about 740 from last year.

Among those who have made lecturing tours covering a number of Sections, an important tour which, I expect, will be productive of lasting results, is that of Miss Helen Zahara, the former Recording Secretary, through all the Sections of South and Central America, including Puerto Rico and Cuba. She was recently for two years on the staff of the American Section Headquarters. She is able to lecture fluently in Spanish, and the reports which have come to me from the Sections

she has visited speak in very high terms of the value of her visit. In addition to lecturing, she has been able in several Sections to discuss their local problems and suggest to them methods by which the work could be improved. She has sent me reports from each place, by which not only myself but also the Recording Secretary and other workers at Adyar have been greatly helped in understanding the conditions in these Sections. She has been invited by the Australian Section to take up work as National Lecturer in Australia in 1956.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, after the close of the School of the Wisdom sessions in March, visited the principal Theosophical centres in South Africa and Rhodesia, and on his way back to his home in New Zealand lectured also in different places in the East African Section. He is now on a long tour through the American Section, which will come to an end after the Annual Convention and summer school in July 1956. While he was in New Zealand he used his time to visit again the principal Theosophical Lodges in that country. I have already mentioned the tour of Miss Emma Hunt. Mrs. E. M. Lavender has been steadily at work helping the different Lodges in Australia and has now gone over to New Zealand for similar work. She stops in each city for several weeks and conducts study classes and gives talks to members and the public. Mr. John Coats has been able to give considerable help to a number of Sections in Europe—Austria, Germany, Scandinavia and Ireland amongst them—by his visits and lecturing. He was present at the French Section Convention where he helped me by his translations as well as in other ways. In this connection I might also mention Miss Mary Graham from New Zealand who devoted eight months to lecturing work in England, invited by the English Section.

I had the pleasure of visiting the Section in Viet-Nam, in March this year, and of coming into contact, among other members, with Mr. Pham-Ngoc-Da, the General Secretary, as well as Madame Nguyen-thi-Hai and her husband Nguyen-van-Huan, who are both leading workers in Saigon and edit a widely circulated Theosophical journal. Later, beginning April 30th, I carried out a tour through different Sections in Europe. I might mention the places visited and the principal events connected with the visit: Athens; Rome and Naples; Vienna, Bruck and Graz in Austria; Zurich and Basle; Nice; the Scottish Convention in Glasgow; the English Convention in London; the French Convention in Paris; Geneva; Amsterdam, where I attended the Netherlands Convention, The Hague and Huizen; Stockholm and the Swedish summer school at Uto; Helsinki and the Finnish summer school in Kreivila; Oslo; Gammel Praestegaard in Denmark for another summer school; Rendsburg in Germany for the German summer school; Brussels, Liege and Antwerp in Belgium; and finally Huizen again for the Council of the European Federation. I was back at Adyar on the 18th of August.

Whilst I was at Kreivila in Finland, I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Duncan Greenlees, author of the *World Gospel Series*, who was also on a tour through Europe, in the course of which he has been contacting various Theosophical Lodges. I am not mentioning here a considerable amount of lecturing work within the various Sections, for instance, in the United States and India, or visits by Theosophists to nearby Sections, which are of no less importance to the work as a whole than any of the tours chronicled above. What finds mention, whether in Theosophical work or in newspapers, is not always the most important part of what actually takes place.

The work at Adyar has gone on steadily throughout the year, despite some changes on the staff. During the absence of Miss Emma Hunt on tour, Miss Ann Kerr, who is the Assistant Recording Secretary, acted most capably as Recording Secretary, and as during that time I was also on tour outside India, the burden of my work fell largely upon her. Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead, who had been good enough to carry on as Treasurer during the years 1953 to 1955, asked me early this year to relieve him of that office, in order to enable him and Mrs. Hilda Moorhead to take up some educational work in which they are particularly interested, and I relieved him accordingly in June. His place was filled temporarily from July to December by Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan, the Assistant Treasurer, to whom I owe special thanks for thus bridging the gap, pending the appointment of a permanent Treasurer. There was happily a very suitable person for the post in Mr. Edwin N. Lord and he has come from the United States of America, with Mrs. Donna Lord, and has now taken charge as Treasurer. Mr. Lord has been Treasurer of the Theosophical Society in America for a number of years, and comes to Adyar with that qualification, in addition to his experience in the General Motors Corporation, from which he retired only three months ago.

Another important appointment that should be mentioned is that of Mr. N. Yagnesvara Sastry, as Honorary Adviser for the Garden Department. He had been for many years Superintendent of the Gardens at Adyar, during Dr. Arundale's Presidentship. We cannot have in that capacity one who has a more intimate knowledge of plants and trees, especially in India, or a more living interest in the Adyar gardens. As Mr. K. Neelakantan, who was the Superintendent from 1948 to 1955, wanted to be freed from his responsibilities, I accepted his request.

There has been a change in the post of the Superintendent of the Bhojanasala from Mr. N. R. Subramania Iyer to Mr. S. Krishnamurti, who also assists Dr. E. Sundaresan in the Dispensary.

We have for some years felt the need for improving and modernizing the Society's Vasanta Press, and the opportunity came when Mr. Kannabhiran Pillay, one of our members living in Durban, South Africa, came to Adyar early this year, partly for the very purpose of giving us the needed advice and help, and partly in connection with personal matters. During his stay at Adyar, Mr. Pillay started a complete re-organization of the Press, installing among other things an up-to-date monotype machine which can be used both for composing and for casting fresh type. As Mr. Pillay had to return to South Africa, I entrusted the duty of completing the re-organization to Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Manager, and Mr. K. Ramanathan, Assistant Manager, of the Theosophical Publishing House, appointing them as joint Directors of the Press. They have already introduced a number of desirable changes, but the work of putting the Press on an efficient basis has still to be completed.

The Adyar Library continues its good work, and although there has been no publication during the year, except the Bulletin, which in its greatly improved form has elicited much appreciation, considerable research has been done, which in due course will result in publications of importance and value. As Kumari A. Sita Devi was needed for other work in the Library, I relieved her of the post of Librarian, and appointed Mrs. Mary Patterson from the United States of America as Librarian in her stead.

Another addition to the staff of workers at Adyar is Mr. Seymour Ballard, who also hails from the American Section, and who is helping in the editorial work of

*The Theosophist* and other T.P.H. publications. The staff of the different Departments, except for the additions and changes indicated above, remains the same as before. For convenience of reference I list the Departments here, with the Heads and Assistants in each instance:

*Archives*, Miss Katherine Beechey; *Adyar Library*, Mr. Alain Danielou, Mrs. Radha Burnier, Mrs. Mary Patterson; *Bhojanasala*, Mr. S. Krishnamurti; *Dispensary*, Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti, Dr. E. Sundaresan; *Engineering Department*, Mr. M. D. Subramaniam; *Gardens*, Mr. N. Y. Sastry, Mr. V. Manickam; *Custody of Movable Properties*, Mr. Naranji K. Kevat; *Laundry*, Mr. M. V. Gopalakrishna Iyer; *Leadbeater Chambers*, Miss Florence Pulsford; *Recording Secretary's Office*, Miss Emma Hunt, Miss Ann Kerr; *Sanitation and Hygiene*, Madame P. Cazin; *Theosophical Publishing House*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Mr. K. Ramanathan; *The Theosophist*, Mrs. D. R. Dinshaw, Mr. Seymour Ballard; *Treasurer's Office*, Mr. Edwin N. Lord, Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan; *Vasanta Press*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Mr. K. Ramanathan, Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau, Mr. T. G. Suryanarayanan; *Watch and Ward*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti.

To every one whose name I have mentioned—to those who are carrying on, those who served till recently, and those who have newly taken up work—I tender my sincere thanks.

The School of the Wisdom commenced its session this year on October 2nd, with myself as Principal and Director of Studies, and Miss Emma Hunt and Mr. M. Subramaniam as most capable Assistants. Much of the work of introducing the subjects and carrying on the classes has fallen so far on the latter, and he has ungrudgingly taken upon his shoulders every possible burden in connection with this work, which he has been doing in addition to his other regular work. The

lectures and classes are held this year on the upper floor of the Blavatsky Bungalow, adjacent to the great Banyan Tree, because of its comparative nearness to the chief residential buildings in which the students are accommodated and to the Headquarters, the Library, the main T. S. offices and Bookshop. Anyone who has attended these sessions of the School will be able to testify to its great possibilities and the important place it already holds among the various activities at Adyar.

With the installation of the monotype machine and the re-organization of the Press, it has been possible considerably to improve the appearance and set-up of *The Theosophist*, as well as of the books recently turned out from the Press. The Theosophical Publishing House was awarded last month a certificate of merit for the publication *Kingdom of the Gods*, by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. Among other books which are on the programme of publications of the Theosophical Publishing House are the remaining volumes of the *H. P. B. Collected Works*, edited by Mr. Boris de Zirkoff in California, U.S.A. Mr. de Zirkoff has been long in correspondence with Brother Jinarājadāsa and our Vice-President, Mr. Sidney A. Cook, as well as myself, in connection with these *Works*, and we have all shared the feeling that the publication of these volumes—in which there is so much of new material collected by Mr. de Zirkoff painstakingly over a long period of years—is work of the greatest interest to Theosophists, which may well claim whatever facilities or help we might find it possible to give.

In connection with the work at Adyar, let me draw the attention of members once again to the need for building up the A.B.C. Fund to the intended figure. The Fund has not yet reached even 45 per cent of the total. There are of course



other needs, such as the necessary finances for providing the Adyar Library with a building of its own. We have also to incur comparatively large expenditure on the maintenance and renovation of a number of buildings on the estate which have grown old, including some which had been in existence already for a long time when the properties connected with them were acquired by the Society. We have started improving some of the buildings, but much more will have to be done in the next few years. Mr. Raymond S. Burnier has been giving extremely valuable help to Mr. M. D. Subramaniam and the Engineering Department in this work of improvement.

I must again acknowledge with gratitude the generous help we receive year by year through the Adyar Day collections, the bulk of which is as usual from the United States of America.

The Theosophical Order of Service has been active throughout the year in the countries in which it has been organized. We have at present at Adyar, attending the School of the Wisdom sessions, two good workers for the helping of the blind with Theosophical literature in Braille in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Snyder from Ojai, California. In England the Order has been re-constituted under the leadership of Mr. John Coats. In New Zealand, where the Order has been particularly active for years, Mr. Brian Dunningham has taken the place of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson as Director, because of the frequent absence of the latter on Theosophical tours. Another Section where the Order is being re-organized is Wales, where Mr. Charles James has taken up the work as Director. Iceland is another Section which reports continuous activity by the Order of Service there. In the United States of America, besides the Braille activity mentioned above, there are a number of other activities carried

on systematically. Mrs. Lois Holmes is at present the Director of the Order there.

While I mention these, it must be remembered that there is considerable work going on in many countries, either under the inspiration or the main direction of Theosophists, which is of no less practical or spiritual value because it does not come technically within the organization of a T. O. S. group. Mr. Rohit Mehta mentions, for instance, the fact that there are no less than twenty-eight educational institutions at present conducted by Theosophists in India. Mrs. Betsan Coats has been doing most valuable work in Europe in connection with the rehabilitation of people in refugee camps, a task in which she has been aided by Theosophists in a number of Sections. Srimati Rukmini Devi has been much occupied during the year with the Bill she has introduced for the protection of animals in India, as well as with other Parliamentary and educational work. It does not matter under what name or through what instrument we serve; the important thing is to render the service.

Among those who have passed on this year, I must mention Mr. D. D. Kanga, Mr. Gopalji Odhavji, Mr. D. K. Telang, Mrs. Margaret Hemsted, Miss Lily Arnold and Madame Trudi Kern, all devoted Theosophists who have given notable help to the work in one way or another. Mr. D. D. Kanga is the author of the book *Where Theosophy and Science Meet*, a book which has been widely appreciated by students. He was for a number of years a valued worker at Adyar. Mr. Gopalji Odhavji, like his brother Pranjivan Odhavji who passed on some years ago, was a greatly respected Theosophist in Gujerat, who delighted in giving help to the movement for various important purposes without allowing his name to appear prominently. Mr. D. K. Telang was for some years General Secretary of the Indian

Section, and before then was one of those who were immediately around Dr. Besant, constantly helping her in every possible manner. Mrs. Hemsted, along with her husband, Mr. Hemsted, was a pillar of the Society in Scotland, and was at Adyar for some time while Mr. Hemsted was Head of the Engineering Department. Miss Arnold was a stalwart worker in the Australian Section who for many years ran a Theosophical School at Mosman near Sydney. Madame Trudi Kern was a much loved Theosophist, known to members in a number of Sections in Europe for her entire devotion to Theosophy and willingness at all times to give personal service to members in need. She was of particular help during the War, being in Switzerland, a neutral State, and able to contact members on both sides of the struggle. We honor these and all other brethren who have passed on during the year.

Before I conclude this address, let us turn our thoughts with fraternal affection and goodwill to our fellow-Theosophists all over the world. We all belong to one band, and whatever the external differ-

ences of nationality, temperament, the background of our past or the activities in which we might be engaged—we are one in our deepest aspirations and purpose. Let us be one in seeking to know our unity ever more deeply. Those who have come into this work and become genuinely interested in it can never really lose the interest nor even their connection with the work. Let each one benefit by any blessing that may come to others. Let each one of us resolve to be true in life as well as in death to the highest he has known, and do his part all the time, whether in circumstances of light or shadow, to the best of his ability.

I ask you all to rise as I repeat in a slightly modified form the words of Dr. Annie Besant, used by her at the Opening of every Convention:

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their continued help and guidance the Society founded to assist Their plans and work. May They inspire it with Their wisdom, strengthen it by Their power, and energize it with Their activity.

N. SRI RAM



## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Income and Expense account of the Theosophical Society for the fiscal year ended 30th September, 1955 closed with a deficit of Rs. 6,754/- as summarized hereunder.

		Budget Rs.	Actuals Rs.
Expense including Departments	.. ..	4,40,740	4,75,473
Income	.. ..	3,90,080	4,19,427
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		50,660	56,046
Less Donations	.. ..		49,292
			<hr/>
Deficit	.. ..		6,754
			<hr/>

The Adyar Day Collections with the balance of Rs. 174-4-9 carried forward from the previous year amounted to Rs. 30,749-4-0. This is inclusive of the sum of Rs. 25,029-0-3 contributed by members in U.S.A. Other donations received during the year amounted to Rs. 30,792-8-3. From this sum the President allocated as follows:

			Rs.	A.	P.
Adyar Library	.. ..	..	2,000	0	0
Olcott Harijan Free Schools	.. ..	..	1,000	0	0
Besant Theosophical High School	.. ..	..	1,000	0	0
Faithful Service Fund	.. ..	..	5,000	0	0
Welfare Fund	.. ..	..	2,000	0	0
President's Discretionary Fund	.. ..	..	1,000	0	0
Sum made available for the T. S.	.. ..	..	49,292	8	3
Balance carried forward	.. ..	..	249	4	0
			<hr/>		
			61,541	12	3
			<hr/>		

*Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.*—Total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 69,843-15-3 and with the sum of Rs. 8,12,467-15-10 at the commencement of the year, the fund amounted to Rs. 8,82,311-15-1 as on 30-9-'55. The attainment of the target figure of Rs.

20,00,000/- still lies ahead. The fund remains open for generous contribution by members until the target level is reached.

*The Faithful Service Fund.*—At the beginning of the year the balance at credit of this Fund was Rs. 22,459-7-2. A sum

of Rs. 9,320-6-1 has been disbursed during the year. A sum of Rs. 5,000/- has been allocated from the Adyar Day Fund, and with this and donations, the balance at credit as on 30-9-1955 was Rs. 22,524-12-10.

*Repairs and Renewals.*—Repairs to our buildings, drainage, roads, etc., amounted to Rs. 37,775-4-6 of which Rs. 7,555/- was charged to War-deferred Maintenance Reserve.

*Bhojanasala.*—The deficit of Rs. 2,414/- is in excess of the budget estimate. The main cause for the increase is due to few residents and it is always necessary to maintain the usual staff even during lean months.

*Leadbeater Chambers.*—This Department closed with a deficit of Rs. 2,008/- as against an estimated deficit of Rs. 2,000/-.

*Laundry.*—The Income has not come up to the anticipated level on account of small number of residents and hence this department shows a deficit of Rs. 1,690/-.

*Engineering Department.*—As job works were comparatively less than last year and as the department had to spend quite a big amount on repairs to lathe and drilling machine, and for the maintenance of the Workshop, the deficit has gone up to Rs. 5,465/-.

*Garden Department.*—The year has been an unusually expensive one. After the lapse of about 10 years, on experts' advice,

the large areas of coconut groves were manured and this has added to the deficit amongst other causes of fall in prices of paddy and in mango crop.

*Vasanta Press.*—The Press has undergone a thorough re-organization. We have been able to purchase a Monotype Machine and a Book-sewing Machine, costing about Rs. 70,000/-. This was partly met by using the reserve of Rs. 45,000/- and the balance from T.S. Capital. The Press did not have adequate work during the first half-year when the re-organisation was in full swing and hence the year closed with a small surplus of Rs. 2,261/-. It is hoped that in the new year with the advent of the new machines there will be an increase in production.

*Watch and Ward and Sanitation.*—These two Departments have continued to be within budget estimates.

*Budget for 1955-'56.*—The estimated income and expense account for the year results in a deficit of Rs. 52,910/-. This does not include any new item of expense and it is hoped that this will be made good by donations during 1955-'56. Our work at the Headquarters is mainly dependent on the continued support and assistance of generous members.

EDWIN N. LORD,

*Hony. Treasurer.*



## THE T. S. INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Budget	EXPENSE								
	Rs.						Rs.	A.	P.
31,000	To Establishment—Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	29,255	12	9
30,000	„ Repairs and Renewals...	...	...	...	...	37,775 4 6			
	Less appropriation from War-deferred Maintenance Reserve					7,555 0 0			
							30,220	4	6
4,500	„ Light and Water	...	...	...	...	...	3,632	2	0
7,000	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	6,775	9	10
3,000	„ Postages, Telegrams and Telephone	...	...	...	...	...	3,273	3	0
4,000	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	...	3,342	3	3
14,500	„ Taxes	...	...	...	...	...	14,253	15	3
800	„ Publications to General Secretaries	...	...	...	...	...	646	14	0
500	„ Museum and Archives	...	...	...	...	...	32	15	6
2,000	„ Convention (Travelling Expenses)	...	...	...	...	...	1,872	13	6
	„ Departmental Results :								
		Expense			Income			Net	
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.
43,340	Garden	42,651	6	0	24,652	3	3	—17,999	2 9
13,000	Watch and Ward	13,630	13	0	2,491	7	6	—11,139	5 6
4,900	Sanitation	4,447	4	6	1,353	9	0	—3,093	11 6
3,500	Dispensary	5,033	13	0	1,002	0	9	—4,031	12 3
2,000	Leadbeater Chambers	15,297	0	9	13,288	8	9	—2,008	8 0
6,900	Laundry	6,626	5	8	4,936	1	6	—1,690	4 2
1,000	Bhojanasala	11,939	11	6	9,525	8	9	—2,414	2 9
	Engineering Department	1,10,272	1	8	1,04,807	0	0	—5,465	1 8
	Vasanta Press	1,37,353	4	8	1,39,614	10	10	+ 2,261	6 2
		3,47,251	12	9	3,01,671	2	4	—45,580	10 5
								45,580	10 5
								1,38,886	8 0
	„ Appropriations :								
5,000	To Adyar Library	...	...	...	...	5,000	0 0		
5,000	„ The School of the Wisdom	...	...	...	...	5,000	0 0		
6,600	„ President's Travelling Fund	...	...	...	...	6,600	0 0		
								16,600	0 0
17,500	„ Depreciation :								
	On Immovable Property @ 2%	...	...	...	...	13,098	0 0		
	„ Movable Property	...	...	...	...	4,912	0 0		
	„ “ Gulistan ” @ 2%	...	...	...	...	305	0 0		
								18,315	0 0
								1,73,801	8 0

## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1955

INCOME										Budget Allotment	
					Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.
By Rent (including Leadbeater Chambers and Bhojanasala)	...	...	...	...	51,342	6	0	53,000			
" Fees and Dues	...	...	...	...	26,907	6	0	24,000			
" Interest :											
Earned	...	...	...	...	40,231	15	0				
Less Interest on Funds and Accounts	...	...	...	...	10,200	11	6				
								30,031	3	6	38,000
" Net Income from Casuarina	...	...	...	...	2,344	6	9	2,000			
" Donations :											
Balance 1-10-1954	...	...	...	...	174	4	9				
Received during the year	...	...	...	...	61,367	7	6				
								61,541	12	3	
Less Allocations and Grants	...	...	...	...	12,000	0	0				
								49,541	12	3	
Less Carried forward	...	...	...	...	249	4	0				
								49,292	8	3	
" Administration Charges	...	...	...	...	7,130	0	0	7,130			
" Excess of Expense over Income for the year	...	...	...	...	6,753	9	6				
								1,73,801	8	0	

Examined and found correct.

V. SOUNDARARAJAN &amp; CO.,

*Chartered Accountants.*







SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 1955

PROPERTY AND ASSETS												
Immovable Property :				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance at Oct. 1, 1954												
Lands at Adyar ... ..				1,93,857	13	0						
Buildings " ... ..				6,32,735	1	9	8,26,592	14	9			
Add Improvements during the year...							22,172	15	0			
							8,48,765	13	9			
Less Depreciation Reserve ... ..							2,68,776	4	0	5,79,989	9	9
										10,000	0	0
Land in Sindh ... ..												
" Gulistan," Kotagiri :							15,260	6	9			
Balance at Oct. 1, 1954 ... ..							1,523	4	6			
Less Depreciation Reserve ... ..										13,737	2	3
Movable Properties, Adyar :												
Balance at Oct. 1, 1954 ... ..							61,024	15	2			
Less Sales ... ..							152	1	0			
							60,872	14	2			
Add Additions during the year ... ..							1,278	6	0			
							62,151	4	2			
Less Depreciation Reserve ... ..							42,526	8	0	19,624	12	2
Investments at Cost :												
Government of India Loan 2½% to 4½% F. V. 7,74,200 ... ..							7,66,699	4	9			
Madras State Govt. Loan and debentures 2½% to 4% F. V. 1,38,400 ... ..							1,38,567	8	0			
United Kingdom Loan, etc. ... ..							3,13,499	14	3			
Surrender Value of Life Policy ... ..							16,800	0	0			
Miscellaneous ... ..							8,943	4	3	12,44,509	15	3
										18,772	15	0
Interest accrued on Investments ... ..										1,719	2	3
Fees and Dues Outstanding ... ..												
Sundry Debtors ... ..							40,481	8	9			
Less Rentals billed in Advance ... ..							1,785	12	0	38,695	12	9
Departmental Assets :												
Electrical Installation, less Depreciation ... ..							32,074	0	0			
Tools, Implements, Utensils and Equipment ... ..							14,232	15	0			
Printing Machinery ... ..							82,402	0	0			
Supplies on hand ... ..							92,666	2	2			
Accounts Recoverable and Advances ... ..							98,112	9	3			
Cash on hand ... ..							995	0	0			
Advance Rentals ... ..							181	0	0			
Standing Crops ... ..							54,172	4	3			
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium ... ..							1,599	4	9			
							3,76,435	3	5			
Adyar Library:				Rs.	A.	P.						
Books and Manuscripts ... ..				1,49,065	0	6						
Furniture, less Depreciation ... ..				25,445	13	6						
Stock of Publications ... ..				27,024	10	0						
Miscellaneous ... ..				1,842	1	8	2,03,377	9	8	5,79,812	13	1
Cash :												
Fixed Deposit ... ..							2,637	0	3			
In Madras Banks on Current Account ... ..							28,636	10	11			
In London Bank do. ... ..							7,837	7	2			
On hand ... ..							11,863	8	4	50,974	10	8
										25,57,836	13	2

Examined and found correct,  
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

# FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1955

						Rs.	A.	P.
The Theosophical Society in U.S.A.	\$1982.67	1954-55	..	9,425	13	0		
" " " " England	£239-2-6	1954-55	..	3,174	0	7		
" " " " India		1953-54	..	1,347	7	0		
" " " " Australia	£45-2-5	1954	..	599	6	6		
" " " " New Zealand	£53-12-5	1954	..	705	10	9		
" " " " Norway	£6-6-0	1954	..	83	7	6		
" " " " Wales	£12-6-0		..	163	6	9		
" " " " Colombia	\$43.80		..	203	10	9		
" " " " Canada	\$100.20	1954-55	..	472	11	0		
" " " " Scotland	£18-15-9	1954-55	..	249	14	0		
" " " " Mexico	\$50.00	1954-55	..	236	2	6		
" " " " Sweden		1954	..	253	2	6		
" " " " N. Ireland	£2-2-7		..	28	2	6		
" " " " Greece	£13-0-0		..	172	9	8		
" " " " Portugal	£14-12-0		..	193	1	0		
" " " " Ireland	£1-10-7		..	19	7	6		
" " " " Puerto Rico			..	55	6	0		
" " " " Finland			..	301	0	0		
" " " " S. Africa	£18-2-3		..	240	8	6		
" " " " Uruguay	£10-0-0		..	132	4	0		
" " " " Denmark			..	131	0	0		
" " " " Central America	\$32.00		..	149	9	9		
" " " " Venezuela	\$18.53		..	87	4	3		
" " " " Indonesia			..	805	0	0		
Canadian Federation T.S.	\$54.69		..	257	13	9		
Non-Sectionalized Lodges, etc.	..	..	..	7,419	6	3		
				26,907	6	0		

## FAITHFUL SERVICE FUND

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1955

## DISBURSEMENTS

	Rs.	A.	P.
To Miss E. M. Amery ...	2,610	0	0
„ Miss H. S. Kemp ...	720	0	0
„ Madame P. Cazin ...	975	4	0
„ Mr. Manjeri S. Rama Iyer ...	240	0	0
„ Mr. C. S. Trilokekar ...	600	0	0
„ Mr. C. Subbarayudu ...	750	0	0
„ Contributions to the Clara Codd Pension Fund ...	2,029	3	1
„ Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Ransom ...	1,391	7	0
„ Money Order and Bank Commissions ...		4	8
„ Balance carried over ...	22,524	12	10
	<u>31,845</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>

## RECEIPTS

	Rs.	A.	P.
By Opening Balance ...	22,459	7	2
„ Donations, etc. ...	3,685	8	6
„ Rent ...	240	0	0
„ Adyar Day Allocation ...	5,000	0	0
„ Interest ...	460	3	3
	<u>31,845</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S  
TRAVELLING FUND

## RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1955

	Rs.	A.	P.
The T.S. in England £150-0-0 .. .. .	1,992	15	3
The T.S. in Scotland £7-14-0 .. .. .	101	15	0
Regional Committee in U.K. through the President £50-0-0 .. .. .	658	0	3
Gwalior Members through the President .. .. .	101	0	0
Mr. Daniel Ricardo Lopes and Mrs. Sarah Serzedello S. Correa Lopes, Lisbon, Portugal £12-0-0 .. .. .	159	7	0
Mr. Lilaram Premchand, Agra .. .. .	10	0	0
Mr. S. H. Vaswani, Adyar .. .. .	2	0	0
Mrs. M. Phillips and Some Edinburgh Members £18-12-4 .. .. .	246	8	0
	<u>3,271</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>6</u>

## THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1955-56

EXPENSE	Budget for 1954-'55	Actuals for 1954-'55	Budget for 1955-'56	INCOME	Budget for 1954-'55	Actuals for 1954-'55	Budget for 1955-'56
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages ...	31,000	29,256	32,000	Rent ...	53,000	51,342	52,000
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	30,220	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	24,000	26,907	24,000
Garden Expenses ...	43,340	42,651	44,290	Conservancy Charges ...	1,400	1,354	1,400
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,776	7,000	Garden Income ...	33,350	24,652	33,950
Light and Water ...	4,500	3,632	4,000	Casuarina ...	2,000	2,344	2,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ...	3,000	3,273	3,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Printing and Stationery ...	4,000	3,342	3,500	Interest (Gross) ...	38,000	40,232	40,000
Publications to General Secretaries ...	800	647	800	<b>Special Departments:</b>			
Sanitation Expenses ...	4,900	4,447	4,900	Engineering De- partment ...	1,06,900	1,04,807	1,13,480
Taxes ...	14,500	14,254	14,500	Vasanta Press ...	1,18,800	1,39,615	1,41,690
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	9,000	10,201	10,000	Laundry ...	5,500	4,936	5,200
Convention ...	2,000	1,873	3,000	Donations ...		49,292	
Watch and Ward ...	13,000	11,139	13,800	Deficit ...	50,660	6,753	52,910
<b>Contributions:</b>							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Dispensary ...	3,500	4,032	3,500				
President's Travelling Fund ...	6,600	6,600	6,600				
Museum and Archives ...	500	33	100				
The School of the Wisdom ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Bhojanasala ...	1,000	2,414	900				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	2,000	2,008	2,000				
Depreciation ...	17,500	18,315	17,800				
<b>Special Departments:</b>							
Engineering Department.	1,06,900	1,10,272	1,13,480				
Vasanta Press ...	1,18,800	1,37,353	1,41,690				
Laundry ...	6,900	6,626	6,900				
	4,40,740	4,59,364	4,73,760		4,40,740	4,59,364	4,73,760

For The Theosophical Society,  
EDWIN N. LORD,  
*Hony. Treasurer.*

## PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1955

[illegible]

For The Theosophical Society,  
EDWIN N. LORD,  
*Hony. Treasurer.*

Examined and found correct,  
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,  
*Chartered Accountants.*

ADYAR  
23rd December, 1955.



## INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT OF THE

Budget	EXPENSE				Rs.	A.	P.
Rs.					Rs.	A.	P.
22,000	To Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	23,606	11	6
1,000	" Copying and Comparing Charges	...	...	...	1,420	14	3
1,000	" Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy	...	...	...	1,218	3	9
700	" Postages	...	...	...	982	3	0
1,500	" Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	4,211	4	7
210	" Fire Insurance	...	...	...	201	12	4
1,000	" Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1,184	0	0
					32,825	1	5
				Rs. A. P.			
1,500	" Reserve for Gratuities	...	...	...	1,500	0	0
700	" Reserve for Depreciation	...	...	...	743	10	0
				2,243	10	0	
	" Capital Expenditure :						
1,000	Books and Manuscripts	...	...	...	474	14	10
2,000	Furniture	...	...	...	2,974	2	0
	Improvements to Buildings	...	...	...	1,107	11	9
					6,800	6	7
					39,625	8	0



## ADYAR LIBRARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-55

[illegible]

## BALANCE SHEET OF THE

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Endowment Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet...	...	...	...	1,65,544	8	2			
Less Excess of Expense over Income for the year	...	...	...	23,340	3	11	1,42,204	4	3
<i>Building Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,25,420	15	9			
Add Receipts	...	...	...	23	12	3			
				1,25,444	12	0			
<i>Less Cost of Improvements :</i>									
As on 30-9-'54	...	...	8,250	6	0				
During the Year	...	...	1,107	11	9				
				9,358	1	9	1,16,086	10	3
<i>Capital Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,79,808	1	7			
Add Capital expense during the year	...	...	...	3,395	0	6	1,83,203	2	1
<i>Publications Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...			17,814	11	7
<i>Gratuities Reserve :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	6,817	7	10			
Additions during the year	...	...	...	1,500	0	0	8,317	7	10
<i>Book Deposit :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	971	0	0			
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	579	10	0			
				1,550	10	0			
Less Refunds	...	...	...	199	10	0	1,351	0	0
Reserve for Purchase of books	...	...	...	...			1,000	0	0
<i>Donation Box :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...			1,252	0	6
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...			684	15	6
							4,71,914	4	0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	
Purchase of Books and Manuscripts	475
Purchase Furniture	2,974
<b>PUBLICATION</b>	
Publication Cost including Authors' Fees	9,000

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## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

BUDGET ESTIMATE—INCOME AND EXPENSE  
ACCOUNT FOR 1955-'56

EXPENSE	Actuals for 1954-'55	Budget for 1955-'56	INCOME	Actuals for 1954-'55	Budget for 1955-'56
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
To Salaries and Wages ...	23,606	26,000	By T.S. Contribution ...	5,000	5,000
Copying and Comparing Charges ...	1,420	1,500	Adyar Day Allocation ...	2,000	2,000
Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy ...	1,218	1,000	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	631	500
Postages ...	982	1,000	Copying and Comparing Charges ...	403	
Printing and Stationery ...	4,211	2,000	Interest on Endowments ...	7,067	7,000
Fire Insurance ...	201	200	Deficit ...	23,340	20,470
Miscellaneous ...	1,184	1,000			
Gratuity Reserve ...	1,500	1,500			
Depreciation ...	743	750			
		34,970			34,970
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
Purchase of Books and Manuscripts ...	475	1,000			
Purchase Furniture ...	2,974	2,000			
PUBLICATION					
Publication Cost including Brahma Vidya ...		3,000			
		9,000			

ALAIN DANIELOU,  
Hony Director,  
Adyar Library.

REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES  
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES, OF  
PRESIDENTIAL AGENTS AND OF  
FEDERATION SECRETARIES.

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These reports in some instances have been translated  
into English, edited or condensed in the office of the  
Recording Secretary.

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## THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

One of the cares of the Society's national Officers is that of trying to evaluate and adjust programmes and methods to changing conditions. There is today an indifference to greatness of outlook and its accompanying spirit of reform.

We meet this situation when Theosophy is simply presented. It demands that we view even those ultimate vistas of life's wholeness in a simple context. If our aim is to popularize Theosophy we have to give emphasis to the practicality of Theosophy in daily life, we have to accent the harmonizing influences of Theosophy, the spirit of calm outlook, of serene cheerfulness.

If there is in the world a general indifference to great, all-inclusive, conceptualizing, and we are failing to adjust our presentation of Theosophy to the condition, we must expect indifference toward Theosophy. We can only hope that this indifference is not further multiplied by the presenting of an *indifferent Theosophy*. Yet that may be the case in a number of instances. What can be deduced but that an indifferent Theosophy prevails in those Lodges that make little or no effort to promote the study of Theosophy or to organize public classes in Theosophy? Is not this the first work of our Society? If the Society's Lodges do not call attention to Theosophy and do not encourage its study, then who will perform this task? An indifferent Theosophy is presented in the neighbourhood of any Lodge where there is little or no effort to study carefully and to teach adequately the knowledge of Theosophy.

It has become more clear the past year or two that we must stimulate the study of Theosophy in life-renewing terms, in vitality-generating terms, in terms of beauty and simplicity—in reposeful terms. And we must encourage in every way possible a greater awareness of the significance of membership in the Theosophical Society. The life side of our world organization needs greater attention. The forces that are being channelled through the Society's centres and through the Lodges are less real to members perhaps than they should be. There is need for a more ardent realization of the subtle power that floods through all available channels in these dramatic days of world change. It might be asked whether our members, with their knowledge of the inward source of life and the direction in which evolution is turned, try frequently to conceive of the vast power of inner forces that must be necessary in order to bring about the swift and profound changes of outlook that are sweeping across the world in these days. Men are facing the very real danger of life's extinction on this planet, a condition that is making irresistible demands upon that little known resource of the human spirit, the ultimate *unity of life*. Olcott, our National Headquarters, must certainly be a centre and a channel of certain of those forces that are changing human thinking. It is but reasonable for us to understand that this is so. We who live and work at Olcott cannot ignore our responsibility to see that our inner lives pursue as nearly as possible an even tenor, to see that Olcott is a happy place, an orderly and a

very busy place, as well as a place of beauty and of serene outlook. Also the workers here must be ever aware of Olcott's life-giving bonds with the great mother-father centre at Adyar, as well as with our brother Sections. These aspects of the Section's Headquarters have had full attention during the year.

*Staff Changes.*—This Convention marks the close of Miss Helen Zahara's two years with us. Her abilities and many capacities have brought added vitality to the work at Headquarters, as well as in the Section, through her position of Assistant Editor of *The American Theosophist*. Perhaps the experience of having an outstanding worker from another Section on the staff at Olcott for a period of service will mark the beginning of a future program of exchanging international workers among the Sections of our Society.

*Field Activity.*—In the field the National President and Mrs. Perkins visited the Lodges of the west coast in the autumn, including the notable Conference held in Seattle.

Mr. Seymour Ballard's itinerary in the autumn took him to Lodges in the east and in the Michigan Federation, including a side trip to Toronto, Canada. During the winter and spring he made a long journey into the Southern and Northern California Federations, the Northwest Federation, and onward into Canada. Later he visited the Texas Federation and its annual Convention. Mr. Ballard's widening experience in the field of lecturing has added materially to his power to interest listeners in the beauty and wisdom of Theosophy. He is leaving us this year for a period of service at Adyar, attending The School of the Wisdom while he is there.

In addition to the regular lecture tours we proceeded with the Spotlight plan that was presented at the last Convention, that of having two couples—Mr. and Mrs.

Felix Layton and Mr. and Mrs. E. Norman Pearson—undertake special work in the field.

*Theosophical Camps.*—In some regions, where practicable, Theosophical camps have been an aid in strengthening and vitalizing the work. Two of these have been operating successfully since 1938—Camp Indralaya in the northwest, situated on Orcas Island near Seattle, and Pumpkin Hollow Farm at Craryville, in northern New York. A third camp, The Oaks, located near Ann Arbor, is being developed by the Michigan Federation. And now a fourth camp, Far Horizons, in the Sierra National Forest in northern California, is in an early stage of coming into existence. These organizations, conducting special programmes of Theosophical study and affording at the same time the experience of camp life, bring members and friends together in the special atmosphere of natural surroundings.

*Membership.*—The total active membership now stands at 4,070 in 145 Lodges.

*Department of Information.*—Through this department 67 new members joined the Society this year.

There was an increase in activity, which included distribution of leaflets, of *Discovery* and of *To those who mourn*.

*Department of Education.*—Completing the third year of activity, the Department of Education reports an increase in all phases of the work. The department conducted two successful Workshop periods in September and in March. The fall Workshop was directed by Dr. Dorothy Rood toward the preparation of Theosophical teachers and group leaders; the spring Workshop was designed by Mr. Pearson for Lodge workers, to assist them in carrying out the various activities and functions of the Officers, including public speaking.

The Department of Education makes available audio-visual material. Taped

talks, some of which are accompanied by visual aids, are being successfully used in the study of Theosophy. The circulation of the various sets of slides has doubled this year.

*The American Theosophist.*—The Advisory Committee, organized in 1952, continues to assist with the consideration of manuscripts. During the year, with the featuring of "News from the Federations" and "News of Special Activities", every effort was made to give coverage to items of national interest. There were regular reports on the Spotlight activity, and the column "Theosophy on the Air" was introduced. The Lodge Activities section continued with one Lodge given special mention each month.

*Discovery.*—In less than ten years since *Discovery* was first published, more than three quarters of a million copies have been distributed. The fourth page is left blank so that Lodges can use this space to print their local announcements. The number of copies distributed has increased by 1,000 over last year's figure. 500 copies have gone each month to the Canadian Federation.

*National Library.*—The activities of the National Library have again increased considerably as shown by the figures. Nearly half of the 10,000 books the library now contains were loaned to borrowers this year. This is almost twice the number circulated five years ago. The total number of library borrowers has increased over last year.

*The Theosophical Press.*—The Theosophical Press has for the past three years reported an above normal volume of sales.

*Radio.*—Twenty-one stations were broadcasting Theosophy in 1954, while during this year 27 stations have had broadcasts for 13 weeks or more. An increasing number of Lodges are continuing their broadcasts for the entire year. Radio has been used in connection

with Spotlight work especially in cities where there are no Lodges. In one Spotlight city, five new members joined because of the radio programme. The Foundation for Radio Theosophy has had a busy year. They furnished tapes to 19 of the 27 stations broadcasting and needed an additional set of their 104 tapes to meet the demand.

A Committee for the improvement of broadcasting, which has now been named the National Radio Committee, was created with two subcommittees. One of these, the Script Committee, is composed of a representative from each of the 14 Federations and Headquarters. The other, the Tape Committee, was named to facilitate the recording of better tapes. To attract interest in script writing a script contest was instituted. Thirty-eight scripts were entered from 21 contestants. The script prepared by Mrs. Edith Chesman of Victoria, B. C. has been judged the winner.

*Olcott Foundation.*—This year Mrs. Dora Gideon of Lakeland, Florida, received the Olcott Foundation award for her lecture "Every Day Theosophy." In the new Research Division activated this year, Mr. Richard W. Hight of Hanley Hills, Missouri, received the award for his research effort, "Evidences for the Group-Soul."

*Young Theosophists.*—It is encouraging to hear from our field workers that more young people are being attracted to Theosophy.

*Mothers' Research Group.*—The *Mothers Bulletin* continues to publicize effectively the work of the Mothers' Research Group.

*Theosophical Order of Service.*—The departments of social service, animal welfare, world peace and music have been specially active. Thirty groups are engaged in the ritual provided by the department of healing.



*The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind.*—The free lending library of 700 volumes maintained by The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, was increased this year by 76 volumes, translated and bound for circulation. This volunteer work is all done by hand. There has been a sizeable increase in the number of borrowers with 715 Braille volumes and 268 Talking Books on records circulated this year. The publication of the Theosophical Braille Quarterly, which is now read in many foreign countries, has continued as well as the Members' Supplement which contains items of interest to members of the Society. One of the outstanding events for the Association was the departure in February of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Snyder for Pakistan to lend assistance there in developing work for the blind. After six months in Pakistan the Snyders will go on to India for similar work. In their absence the work of the Association is being carried on capably, with additional help, by a staff of workers at the Braille Headquarters in Ojai.

*Theosophical Book Gift Institute.*—This year through the Theosophical Book Gift Institute 4,773 books were placed in 738 libraries. In the Spotlight activity it is a distinct asset for the workers to be able to say from the platform, "Books on Theosophy are available in your public library." If on investigation they find that a library does not have books on Theosophy, they consult with the librarian and arrange with T.B.G.I. to have them placed there. Sometimes people make their first contact with Theosophy through books obtained in libraries and pursue their awakened interest with a letter of inquiry to Headquarters. This year there were 28 such letters. Three enquirers have become members of the Society. In addition to the 16 books from which

librarians may choose, gift subscriptions to *The Theosophist* are offered to libraries.

*Finances.*—In many directions the Society's activities record our efforts to spread Theosophy. The national programme is supported by the dues paid and the donations made to the National Society. Over a period of years the financial reports have exhibited that our regular income falls far short of balancing expenses. Nevertheless, the total income from both dues and donations has yielded for a number of years a surplus of funds.

In our expanding horizon of financial responsibilities there has been under consideration by the Board of Directors throughout the past year, a plan for the founding of a Theosophical investment Trust to provide competent supervision of the Society's investments, as well as to establish a responsible Trust body which can receive larger bequests specifically directed to the Trust by donors who intend to provide long term benefits to the Society through investment income.

*Conclusion.*—The Theosophical Society is engaged in forming a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, and this purpose is being pursued as vital links are created between local and national centres and the world centre at Adyar.

As we glimpse the larger vistas of our work, we may see that it progresses because it calls upon us to dream greatly, and to give of ourselves endlessly and without thought of personal reward. Ours is enough to know that every effort we make, whether it be of inspired thought or action, or material contribution, moves the cultural and civilized life of the world toward the realization of Universal Brotherhood in all of its forms and institutions.

JAMES S. PERKINS,

*General Secretary.*



## ENGLAND

The year under review has been one of steady and devoted effort rather than of spectacular advance. Membership still shows a slight upward trend, and Federations, Lodges and centres have continued to work harmoniously and with enthusiasm.

We were fortunate in having several visitors from abroad, and especially in that the President was able to spend a few days in England and to preside at our Annual Convention. In October, Srimati Rukmini Arundale passed through England on her way to South America and we were able at very short notice to arrange for her to address a members' meeting. We also welcomed Miss Mary Graham from New Zealand and Professor Ernest Wood, both of whom toured the Section extensively. Mr. Seymour Ballard and Mrs. Nedra Ruder also spent a short time in England on their way to Adyar. In addition to these there has been a constant influx of members from abroad visiting the country and making contact with the workers at Headquarters and elsewhere.

Contact with the European Federation was well maintained. Six of our members attended the meetings in connection with the Council of the Federation which took place at Huizen in August.

Our *Annual Convention* was held as usual at Whitsuntide, and under the Presidency of Mr. Sri Ram was a most inspiring occasion. Attendance of members from all parts of the country was good in spite of a threatened railway strike. The number of overseas visitors was greater than usual.

As well as presiding over the whole gathering, the President attended a meeting of the Theosophical Order of Service, and gave addresses at the opening and closing of Convention, in addition to a public

lecture and a lecture to members. The annual *Blavatsky Lecture* was given by Dr. Hugh Shearman, Organizing Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Northern Ireland, under the title *Purpose Beyond Reason*. Other lectures were given by Miss M. Graham, Miss M. Pontefract and Col. K. Chodkiewicz. On the Saturday evening a delightful recital of instrumental music and a dramatic reading afforded a welcome break from the more serious business. One period was occupied with a symposium by the Theosophical Research Centre on *Unseen Forces in Nature*.

A feature of the year's work has been the arranging of a series of lectures and classes in Headquarters stretching over a period of 12-14 weeks. In the autumn, classes were held by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner under the title *A Practical Course on Thought Control*. These were booked to capacity and repeated in the spring. The attendance at the whole course averaged well over 50. In the spring, also, a course of lectures entitled *Brotherhood in Action* was given, each lecture being delivered by a well-known worker in his own particular field. The ground covered included UNICEF, animal welfare, Red Cross, prison work, work for the blind and work for the aged.

The *National Publicity Department* continues to be active. Much more use is now being made of Besant Hall for public lectures. A series of six was given in the spring, and a further series of six is in progress at the time of making this report. Attendance at these has been very satisfactory. Many lecture tours in the Federations were arranged, as well as the weekly Sunday and Wednesday lectures at Headquarters. The majority of Lodges in the country hold regular public lectures.

Although officially a separate department, the *Headquarters Library* is in fact an extremely good avenue for propaganda. About 11,000 books were exchanged during the year, and 1,700 parcels dispatched, many containing several books on related subjects. The Library has nearly 200 non-F.T.S. subscribers.

*Study weekends* tend to become more of a feature of the national work. Four of the seven Federations held study weekends at Easter. In addition, many individual Lodges arranged occasional study weekends. The *Theosophical Research Centre* held its usual study weekend at Camberley early in May, when the subject was "Man, A Creator"; and, as an innovation, a very well attended and highly successful weekend at London Headquarters in late September, the subject being "Latent Powers in Man and Nature".

The *Camberley Camp* has had a successful session, starting on Easter bank holiday. Camps were also held over August bank holiday and in early September. Well-known speakers are usually invited to lead discussions and to give short talks suitable to the type of young people who attend the camps. The average number at these three camps was 40. A Round Table Camp was held in the summer with 45 children present.

The *Study and Training Committee* continues to meet regularly. Although its members are all much occupied and progress is slow, there is a steady output of new study courses. During the year a *Speakers' Course* was completed, and the Committee is now preparing a course on *What is Man?* In all, nine study courses are available, and several hundred copies are sold annually at a cheap rate to Lodges and members.

The *Theosophical Publishing House (London) Limited* has again had a satis-

factory year's trading and shows a small profit. The Theosophical Society in England is part-owner of this business and is often able to assist with loans when expensive publications are being planned. The sales of *The Secret Doctrine* reprint are particularly satisfactory, about 200 copies of the six-volume edition having been sold during the year. The bookshop also has a considerable trade with countries other than England. During the year it has published *Purpose Beyond Reason*, by Hugh Shearman, (the Blavatsky Lecture for 1955), and the following reprints: *The Astral Body*, A. E. Powell; *The Story of Atlantis and Lost Lemuria*, Scott-Elliott; *From Pioneer to Poet*, I. M. Pagan; *An Astrological Key to Character*, I. M. Pagan; and *A Cry from Afar*, Mabel Collins.

Under the inspiration of the President the Theosophical Order of Service was re-constituted in England to co-ordinate the humanitarian work done by individual members. The Section adopted a Greek refugee camp at Kolokythou; about £800 in cash has been collected and 2½ tons of clothing dispatched to this camp. A few active members have started a *Parents' Group* which publishes its own attractive small bulletin and has linked up with similar work in other countries.

On the whole the Section has had a successful year's work. Although membership remains approximately stationary, there is no doubt to one who works intimately with the T.S. in England that the volume of study, of lecturing, of literature, and perhaps above all these of the quality of living of the individual Theosophist, has an effect towards theosophizing the world which is incalculable.

C. R. GROVES,

General Secretary.

## INDIA

During this year the Indian Section Headquarters completed 60 years of its life at Banaras. It was in 1895 that the Indian Section offices were transferred to Banaras (not to the present premises) from Adyar under the General Secretaryship of Mr. Bertram Keightley; and the Annual Convention of the Indian Section was held for the first time at Banaras on 19th, 20th and 21st October, 1896, in the house of Babu Kali Krishna Tagore under the Chairmanship of Sri Purnendu Narayan Sinha of Patna. It was at this Convention that a Committee was appointed, headed by Dr. Annie Besant, to evolve ways and means for the establishment of "a suitable permanent Headquarters for the Section at Banaras." Thus, for 60 years, the Indian Section has functioned from Banaras. In the course of these sixty years the Indian Section Headquarters has grown into a beautiful estate due to the generous support received from a large number of members of the Theosophical Society both in India and outside. We remember them all with sincere gratitude on this occasion of the Section Headquarters completing 60 years of eventful life.

*Lecture Tours.*—Even though the President was out of India for nearly four months, he still found it possible to visit a few Lodges of the Indian Section.

He presided over the North India Theosophical Conference held at Banaras and also over the South India Theosophical Conference held at Adyar. He also presided over the Rayalaseema Theosophical Federation held at Cuddapah and the Bengal Theosophical Federation held at Calcutta.

Needless to say his public lectures and talks to members everywhere were most inspiring. His visits have greatly strengthened our work in India. We are very

grateful to the President for having found time, in the midst of his many engagements, to visit these Lodges.

*General Secretary.*—Shridevi and I visited during the year, Lodges in the Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Marathi, Karnataka, Bombay, Madras and Tamil Federations.

I presided over the annual Session of the Uttar Pradesh, Gujarathi, Marathi and Karnataka Federations.

We helped in the work of the regional Camps at Adyar and Baroda as also in the Lodge Officers' Camps at Banaras and Tanjore.

Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram undertook an extensive tour of the Tamil Federation area. She presided over three study Camps held at Tirunelveli, Sivaganga and Yercaud.

Mrs. Rukmini Devi, in spite of her many engagements in connection with the Indian Parliamentary work, was able to give a series of public lectures under the auspices of the Delhi Federation.

Mr. M. Subramaniam visited, during the year, Calcutta and Bombay. In Calcutta he gave a series of talks dealing with various aspects of the Ancient Wisdom. During the year he visited Lodges in West Pakistan also.

Messrs. H. Mehta, D. M. Vaswani, V. S. Thanoo Iyer, Shambu Dayal, S. G. Venkataramanan, S. N. Chowdhry, R. Shukla and Mrs. M. R. Dalla visited and lectured in many Lodges in various provinces of India. The Indian Section is grateful to them.

*Passed Over.*—56 members passed over during the year. Special mention must be made of Prof. D. D. Kanga, Mr. Somanchi Lingayya, Mr. Gopalji Thakkar, Mr. D. K. Telang and Mr. F. H. Dastoor.

*Membership.*—We began the year with a membership of 6,376. During the year, 639 new members joined the Society; 222

dormant members revived their membership; and 4 members were transferred from other Sections. Thus, our total membership on 1st October 1955 should have been 7,241. But, in the course of the year, 56 members died, 22 resigned,

one member was transferred to another Section and 734 members dropped out for non-payment of annual dues. And so we have at the end of the year, a total membership of 6,428, a small increase of 52 members.

STATEMENT SHOWING TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS  
(IN GOOD STANDING) ON 1ST OCTOBER 1955

Federation	Total No. of members as on 1-10-54	Add			Total (2 to 5)	Deduct				Total No. of members as on 1-10-55
		New	Revival	Transfer from other Sections		Deaths	Resigned	Transfer to other Sections	Dropped	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Circars ...	872	117	68	...	1,057	6	1	...	148	902
Bengal ...	248	33	4	...	285	1	...	1	25	258
Bihar ...	313	18	3	...	334	...	...	...	58	276
Bombay ...	405	33	2	1	441	5	5	...	14	417
M. B. & Rajasthan ...	254	16	6	...	276	2	2	...	41	231
Delhi ...	103	26	8	...	137	1	...	...	24	112
Gujarat ...	698	66	10	...	774	9	2	...	54	709
Karnataka ...	654	63	22	...	739	7	2	...	29	701
Kerala ...	175	10	3	1	198	4	...	...	47	138
Marathi ...	266	26	5	...	297	2	3	...	15	277
Rayalaseema ...	305	38	36	...	379	7	1	...	29	342
Tamil ...	572	39	26	2	639	1	...	...	83	555
Madras ...	274	26	6	...	306	5	1	...	30	270
Uttar Pradesh ...	707	119	14	...	840	5	2	...	57	776
Youth ...	244	2	9	...	255	...	1	...	44	210
Unattached & H. Q. ...	281	7	5	...	293	1	2	...	36	254
Total ...	6,376	639	222	4	7,241	56	22	1	734	6,428



It may be mentioned here that out of the 639 members newly admitted during the year nearly 45 per cent are below the age of 35—the percentage for the previous two years being 37 and 36 respectively.

On 1st October 1955, we had 426 Lodges and 59 centres—in all 485 constituent units of the Indian Section, an increase of 29.

485 constituent units of the Indian Section spread all over the country make the Theosophical Movement in this land a very representative one. But it puts tremendous responsibilities on the shoulders of the Section as well as the Federation workers. It is easy to form Lodges and centres, but it is extremely difficult to maintain them—that is—to keep them vital and pulsating with life. The Lodges and the centres are the representatives of the world-wide Theosophical movement in their localities. They will add to the beneficent influence or otherwise of the world-wide movement by the manner in which they function. Very few of our Lodges and centres have at present the trained personnel which is very essential for their proper and effective functioning. And, therefore, the training of Lodge Officers is a matter of great importance. The fact that so many Lodges and centres come into existence indicates that there is an increased interest among the people with regard to Theosophy and the Theosophical Society. A more systematic effort should be made to train Lodge workers during the coming year, as that will not only vitalize our Lodges but also reduce to a considerable extent the number of our members that drop out every year.

*Lodge-Vitalization Scheme.*—In my last annual report I suggested that for the strengthening of our movement in India, we must turn our serious attention to the problem of vitalizing our many Lodges. An effort was made in this direction during the year under report. Its immediate

effect has been seen in our membership position. For the first time after four years we are able to see this year a nett increase in membership. Probably we are once again on the upward arc so far as our membership is concerned. Even though the increase is small, it shows a tendency towards an upward movement.

During the year, Lodge Officers' Conferences were held at a number of places, where Lodge problems were discussed. In the May 1955 issue of *The Theosophical Review* details of subjects for consideration at such Conferences were given.

In the course of the last few years study Camps have become a special feature of our work in India. Over and above the two regional Camps held at Adyar and Baroda, study Camps were organized by Bihar, Madhya Bharat, Gujarat, Marathi, Andhra Circars and Karnataka Federations.

*Hindi Publications.*—In the course of the last four years we have been carrying on the work of Hindi publications from Banaras under the auspices of the Ananda Prakashan. Although this Publishing House has no official connection with the Indian Section it is an important branch of Theosophical work located at the Indian Section Headquarters, so I make a special mention of it each year in my report. Over and above the monthly journal *Ananda* which it conducts, the Ananda Prakashan has brought out a number of Theosophical books in Hindi.

*Educational Work.*—At the Indian Section Headquarters there are now three educational institutions: The Besant Theosophical School, the Vasanta Kanya Mahavidyalaya and the Bharatiya Sangeet Vidyalaya. Although these institutions have no official connection with the Indian Section they form an important part of the life at the Section Headquarters.

Often, the criticism is levelled against Theosophists that they are not engaged in



practical work. Of course it is very difficult to define what practical work is. But I would most emphatically refute this charge and say that Theosophists in India *have been and are engaged in practical work of great importance.* One of the most important pieces of practical work in which Theosophists in India are engaged is in the field of education and culture. There are no less than 29 educational institutions at present conducted by Theosophists all over the country.

*Section Headquarters.*—The work at the Section Headquarters has been going on steadily and smoothly with its various Theosophical and allied activities.

I most sincerely thank all my colleagues for having given me unstinted help and co-operation in the work of the Indian Section and in the administration of the Headquarters' Estate.

*The Future.*—Having reviewed the work of the Indian Section for the year 1954-55, I wish to dwell very briefly on a programme of work that may be undertaken during the year 1956.

The Indian Section is vast in its area with 485 Lodges and centres spread all over the country. To cover this wide field we need a large number of lecturers who will visit different Lodges and centres in the course of the year. During 1954-55 we were able to enlist the support of a number of lecturers whose work has been very fruitful.

The life of every Lodge must flow mainly through three channels—ideological, social and practical or humanitarian. The ideological work has to be carried out through lectures, study classes, camps, symposia, conferences and discussions. An active Lodge cannot afford to neglect this part of its work. The purpose of this work is to bring an ideological clarification among the members and the public. The ideological clarification is only another word for the discovery of funda-

mental values. Lectures and study classes organized by Lodges can have only one purpose—to help people to discover lasting values of life. When this objective is lost sight of, lectures and study classes lose their meaning and significance.

The social side of Lodge work is for providing suitable emotional channels in which the energies of the members and of the public may flow. These may consist of informal gatherings, celebrations, art and cultural programmes, and community singing. Sometimes we tend to intellectualize these functions. In so doing, we forget the purpose of the social aspect of Lodge work.

The practical or the humanitarian side of our work must be an expression of the life that pulsates in a Lodge. A really active Lodge cannot help developing a number of humanitarian activities. In fact, in every Lodge, there must arise different groups taking up various branches of humanitarian work. The humanitarian work which groups of Theosophists in various Lodges may undertake should really be an expression of their inner experience, as, otherwise, such activities will be utterly lifeless.

There are many branches of humanitarian work in which groups of Theosophists in this country may well enter. But perhaps there is no branch of work so important today in this land as educational. Here, through our understanding of Theosophy, we can make outstanding contributions.

*Our Supreme Task.*—To know the Wisdom and to interpret it according to the needs of the age—this has been the special work of Theosophists at all times. The age in which we live today naturally needs a fresh interpretation of the Ancient Wisdom. But before we interpret we must be steeped in the Wisdom—and Wisdom cannot be gathered from books—it arises out of the direct experience of man.

It is only when we are steeped in such Wisdom that we shall be able to place an interpretation on the Ancient Wisdom in a manner suited to the needs of the age. The growth and the development of our Movement in India depends very largely upon our effectiveness in interpreting the Ancient Wisdom to the people of our times who are caught up under the sway of conflicting ideologies. We must address ourselves more and more to this task. A Theosophical approach to life, if presented suitably, will enable the people to be steady in the midst of the tremendous ideological impacts which seem to be the

special feature of this age. To bring an ideological clarification to the people, to help them to discover the fundamental values of life—this indeed must remain the supreme work of Theosophists. Let us not lose sight of this work in the midst of organizational details. Let every constituent unit of our Movement in India—the Section, the Federation, the Lodge and the Individual Member—be widely awake to the needs of our work, and be active in the fulfilment of the objective for which it stands.

ROHIT MEHTA,  
General Secretary.

## AUSTRALIA

This report covers the 60th year of the Australian Section. The anniversary was celebrated at a Diamond Jubilee Convention held in Sydney at Easter, April 1955, followed by a summer school, the first of its kind sponsored by the Section. Convention met in Savoy House, Bligh Street, and the summer school at Newport Beach, twenty miles up the coast.

Preparatory to Convention a Diamond Jubilee number of *Theosophy in Australia*, the Section journal, was published with an editorial on "The Significance of the Diamond Jubilee", and special articles on "Australia's Links with Inner Sources", "The Aryanization of Australia" and other related material.

The full session in the Savoy Theatre on Good Friday was memorable for its spiritual depth and constructive work. A message from the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, sounded a note which chimed in with the theme of Convention—*Theosophy for Australia*—and which reverberated throughout. The President noted the Section's achievements in the last sixty years and visioned "a still more magni-

ficent future for Australia, and Theosophy growing from more to more."

Miss Emma Hunt, Recording Secretary, came from Adyar and delivered several addresses at the Convention and the summer school. Mrs. Marion Lavender also took part, giving talks and studies on *The Secret Doctrine*.

Mr. J. L. Davidge was re-elected General Secretary for the ninth year in succession. The Theosophical Order of Service was organized on a national basis, incorporating local groups. An innovation was made by type-recording the Convention addresses and establishing a type-recording library in the Section Office.

Congratulatory messages were read from Mrs. Ransom, Miss Codd and Dr. Bean, former General Secretaries. Mrs. Ransom sent a fervent hope that "through you all Theosophy will do more and more to help in the growth and guidance of a people heading for greatness."

The summer school, held in a seaside hostel, drew 50 to 70 people daily. The theme was *Theosophy for the Modern World* and discussions covered a wide

field, concentrating on Theosophy, its evolution, the world's need for it, its relation to youth, and its integration with modern thought.

*Membership.*—The total at the end of September was 1,217, an increase of 20. Since 1947 the average increase has been 60 members a year. Whereas a decade ago the Lodges recruited members from 98 per cent British stock, the additions today comprise all nationalities, including European migrants and Eastern students under the Colombo Plan.

The Young Theosophists are a vigorous group in most cities, finding their own way of work and training for leadership. Young migrants from the United Kingdom and Europe have brought zest and originality to the work.

*Lecturers.*—Miss Emma Hunt visited the mainland Lodges during July and August and stimulated the work, especially on the inner side. Mrs. Lavender has been working in the eastern Capitals from January to August. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson gave several addresses while passing through by air from Johannesburg to

Auckland. Otherwise we have relied on local speakers.

*Broadcasting* is one of our most potent forms of propaganda. Our 2GB Sydney session every Sunday evening is a Section activity and the range of talks has this year been widened to include some from members from other States. These are recorded by some local radio station and the disc is sent to Sydney. This new move has strengthened our programmes.

*Propaganda.*—There has been a good demand for the five free pamphlets published last year and a new series is in preparation. Book sales have increased, especially in Sydney, pointing the need for a central publishing house for the whole Section.

*Looking ahead.*—The 1956 Convention is to be held in Perth, for the first time in the history of the Section—March 29 to April 2—and on April 24 Miss Helen Zahara arrives in Perth and tours the Commonwealth as National Lecturer.

J. L. DAVIDGE,  
*General Secretary.*

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## SWEDEN

The outstanding event of the year was the visit of our International President, Mr. Sri Ram. His public lecture in Stockholm drew a large audience and was given very favourable newspaper publicity. His presence and lectures at our summer school were much appreciated.

Among other foreign visitors was Mr. Duncan Greenlees, a learned visitor whom we hope to hear again. Mr. Otto Viking visited us twice giving great spiritual inspiration. Mr. Ernst Nielsen, a former General Secretary of Norway, was present and lectured at our summer school.

*Membership.*—We have at present 389 members in 20 Lodges.

*Activities.*—We have perhaps too much activity in Stockholm but in the rest of the country there are only a few places active. We have not many lecturers who can travel to distant centres. Lectures about meditation seem to attract attention always. Some opportunities have arisen to do propaganda for vegetarianism.

Mrs. Ingrid Fjellander, who is now Vice General Secretary, has perhaps been one of the most appreciated lecturers. She has also worked as the Swedish

head of "Help for refugees in Greece". Many members and non-members have given her great support.

During Easter 1955 we had a most peaceful and brotherly Annual meeting. The meeting decided that our public Theosophical Magazine henceforward shall now and then have a supplement, which shall be sent only to members, and which shall give more space for articles specially written for members or not suitable for the public.

Mr. Elis Wikstrom has been re-elected General Secretary. The rest of the Board is partly new, primarily because the new rules of the Section gives a greater possibility to new members.

Our financial situation which was difficult in 1953 is still improving. One result is that we have been able to fully realize the plan to publish Mr. N. Sri Ram's book *A Theosophist looks at the World*. The translation was made by Mrs. Birgitta Rodosi and Mr. Curt Berg. The Theosophical bookshop in Stockholm works very satisfactorily and in a most liberal manner, selling literature representing many idealistic organizations. The direc-

tor of the bookshop is Mrs. Nadja von Rennenkampff. Immediately after Mr. Sri Ram's visit she announced that the bookshop sold stencilled copies of Mr. Sri Ram's lectures, all of which had been carefully tape-recorded.

The *Library* in our Headquarters in Stockholm has, from the Swedish section of the Pasadena Theosophical Society, received a collection of literature representing that society, mainly literature by Dr. Purucker. Mrs. Mona Wikstrom, who is a member of both societies, acted as a bridge which brought this gift. There is not much contact between different societies of a Theosophical nature. Yet this year there has been organized some meetings between representatives of organizations which have ideals in common. Our member, Mr. Sigfrid Fjellander, and a Leader of the Spiritualistic movement took the first initiative and they have succeeded in organizing a committee consisting of representatives chosen and authorized by different organizations.

ELIS WIKSTROM,  
General Secretary.

## NEW ZEALAND

*Our President.*—Mr. N. Sri Ram, *International President*, has been invited to visit New Zealand, and we trust that it will be possible for him to do so soon despite his many duties and extensive tours.

*Touring Lecturers.*—Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, international lecturer and author, arrived in New Zealand on 28th June. About 500 people were present at his first lecture in the Auckland Town Hall. He has had capacity houses at almost every lecture since his arrival, including his weekly study classes. He has toured all of the main centres and addressed a considerable number of outside

organizations. In addition to this he has been keeping 4 part-time secretaries busily engaged with the preparation of manuscripts for forthcoming books, lecture notes and correspondence.

*Miss Emma Hunt.*—Our Recording Secretary arrived here on 21st April and toured all of the main centres, sharing with us the benefit of her experiences gained at Adyar and Banaras. She spoke on "The Message of Theosophy for the Modern World."

*Miss Sandra Chase*, our National Lecturer, returned to New Zealand on March 22nd, after attending the School of The



Wisdom at Adyar, and our International Convention at Banaras. She has toured our Section telling of the wonderful work being done by Theosophists abroad. Miss Chase was guest lecturer at our Easter summer school held at Orewa with the record attendance of 70 to 80 members.

*Dr. G. L. Mangan*, of Duke University, North Carolina, U.S.A. (Parapsychology Department) a co-worker with Dr. Rhine, addressed our Executives at Section Headquarters and one of our study groups on telepathy, pre-cognition, clairvoyance, and psycho-kinesis.

*Mrs. E. Marion Lavender* arrived on 29th September as our guest lecturer for seven months, and has been giving up to 9 lectures a week, including Secret Doctrine Study Classes, to a number of our Lodges. She will visit our main centres, be guest speaker for our Annual Convention at Dunedin, and at our next Easter summer school. She warmly presents straight Theosophy and has endeared herself to our members. She is arousing much needed support for the Harijan Schools at Adyar.

*Our General Secretary*, and others, have addressed many organizations such as Rotary Clubs, Chambers of Commerce, Travel Clubs, Peoples' University Clubs, and Women's Organizations and carried out considerable propaganda work, including visits to all Lodges.

*Membership*.—A nett increase of 62 brings our membership to 977 as on 30th September 1955, compared with 915 at the same time last year.

*New Lodge*.—A new Lodge has been formed in Nelson with 15 enthusiastic members.

*Drawing Room Groups*.—These have proved very successful in interesting people in our teachings, extending the circulation of *Theosophy in New Zealand*, strengthening Lodges and increasing membership. Copies of "How to form and

operate Drawing Room Groups" are available free from the General Secretary.

*Tape Recordings*.—Many of the Lodges have now purchased machines and a considerable library has been established. All of Mr. Hodson's public lectures and most of his study class talks have been recorded during his present visit, and are now being sent to Lodges in New Zealand and throughout the world. Sir Edmund Hillary's address to our last Convention is also available, and many others including short talks by the late C. Jinarajadasa and by Dr. G. L. Mangan. We invite all Sections and Lodges to forward us lists of tapes they have available and we shall reciprocate. All or any of our talks will be copied on to tapes supplied by any Lodge or Section free of charge.

*Theosophy in New Zealand*.—Our magazine is up in its circulation to 1300 copies this issue and is proving a good medium for recruiting new members. Our Editor, Mrs. Roma Dunningham, invites members in all countries to send us scientific endorsements of Theosophical concepts, and thanks the subscribers and contributors from the 55 countries to which the magazine is sent for their support and help.

*The School of the Wisdom*.—Miss N. M. J. Finlayson and Mrs. H. G. R. Mason are attending the School of the Wisdom this year.

*Easter Summer School*.—At our well-attended summer school held at Orewa, Miss Sandra Chase, our National Lecturer, was guest speaker.

*Theosophical Order of Service*.—Following the recommendation of the meeting held at our International Convention in Banaras 1954-55, our Section has published a pamphlet by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, entitled "The Spiritual Significance of Motherhood". Samples of this have been sent to almost every English speaking Lodge in the western world with a view



to bringing to the notice of all members the Theosophical principles involved in the solution of the pressing problem of moral delinquency.

*Social Work.*—Generous financial and other support has been given to the Deaf and Dumb children, the Home for Inebriates, the Howard League for Penal Reform, and the Combined Animal Welfare Organization of New Zealand.

*National Director of T.O.S.*—Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, after many years of valuable service, has retired from this office and Mr. Brian Dunningham has been appointed to succeed him by our International President Mr. N. Sri Ram.

*Vasanta Garden School.*—The Theosophical Educational Trust Board has elected as Co-Principals, Miss Daphne Darroch and Miss Helen Crocombe, in place of Miss Bertha Darroch, who has retired after many years of excellent service. The school continues to flourish, and finances are reasonably strong.

*Funds for Adyar.*—We have been privileged to send £100 to Adyar this year for a valued member, also £74 for the Adyar Day Fund and £19 for the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.

*Section Funds.*—Substantial donations for both Penny-a-Day and the General Purposes Fund have enabled us to carry out a programme of expansion. A legacy of £300 was received.

*Conclusion.*—Our keynote for the forthcoming year will be *Theosophy—the Spiritual Science the World is Seeking*. Our united efforts will be turned to popularising a knowledge of Theosophy and so help to reduce the unnecessary suffering of humanity and ensure that the benefits of the atomic age will be brought to all, and the inner joy and sense of fulfilment of the inner life be shared universally.

BRIAN DUNNINGHAM,

*General Secretary.*

## NETHERLANDS

*Membership.*—Although 74 new members were admitted, our membership on September 30, 1955, 1633, was still one below that at the end of the previous year. The number of lapsings, 38, was rather large, but the loss of so many inactive members means at the same time an increase of the average quality.

*General Work.*—My wife, who takes care of the administration of the Section, and I continued our visits to many Lodges, and happily these contacts with the Lodges proved most successful.

By holding a Support Convention during Christmas time at St. Michaels Centre, Huizen, at which Mrs. Rukmini Devi gave an address, we tried to bring about a

stronger and more harmonious relationship between Section and Centre.

*Publicity.*—Our Publishing Department shows great activity. Its relation to the Section being now firmly established as an integral part of the activities of the Section, it has widened the scope of its work by supplying Theosophical and other literature to members and non-members in ever greater measure. A committee of seven members is managing its affairs. It is preparing a series of new booklets, the first being edited in October 1955.

*Visit of the President.*—The second visit of the President within a year has been a great privilege to the Section. We arranged that he could be present at our

National Convention, held at Amsterdam in June. Two public lectures were given by the President which were fairly well attended. The press gave favourable commentaries.

At the end of his extensive tour throughout Europe, on August 9, the President came once more to Holland in order to attend the meetings of the European Council, held at St. Michaels Centre. Many members of the Section deeply appreciated the addresses given by him during those few days.

*Theosophical Research Centre.*—Towards the close of December 1954 a Theo-

sophical Research Centre in Holland was formed, its President being Prof. Dr. A. M. Haas of Delft University and its Secretary Dr. J. J. Poortman, Librarian of our Section. Much interest is shown in this new undertaking; several groups are formed to study various aspects of the relations between Science and Theosophy.

*Help for Refugees.*—The financial help extended to refugees of Camp Kolokynthou near Athens, Greece, has been continued during the whole year.

B. WOUTERS,  
General Secretary.

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## FRANCE

The year 1954-55 was marked by a new start. The French Section, which has known certain difficulties during the last few years, has the pleasure to report an increase in the number of its active members. Two new Lodges were created: Lodge *Asna* at Lille, and Lodge *Fohat* in Paris. This last Lodge, presided over by a Doctor of Science, studies the parallel between Science and Theosophy and is in touch with similar research groups in other countries.

The Five Year plan, established by the Convention, to broadcast Theosophy continues to be carried out by the Lodges and workers.

The 1955 Convention was presided over by our much loved International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, whose presence enabled us to place the study of the problems of the Section on a very high and very realistic level. We wish to offer here our many thanks to our President for his friendly, constantly fraternal, and serene aid. The Convention approved new Statutes, revised very carefully by a jurist

specialist in the work of Associations. The various activities of the Section were also approved. By a very large majority the Convention expressed its confidence in the Conseil Directeur, and M. Francis Brunel was re-elected General Secretary.

Paris being a great centre of cultural life at the world's cross roads, a *welcome office* was established. This is a kind of public relations office as well as an information service where people and newcomers can receive the details they may require. Thanks to its activity, a number of new members joined the Society and were directed to the Lodges best suited to them among the 20 active ones in Paris. This office is also giving help to members coming from other countries and passing through the city. We take this opportunity to invite all members visiting Paris to come to our Headquarters.

The National Library continues its good work. Many have joined the Society through this channel, and among them quite a number of young people.

Our *Publishing House*, which is under the direct control of the Section, insures the regular publication and diffusion of Theosophical literature in French. We have also published a series of valuable *Texts from the East* in collaboration with Professors of the Sorbonne.

Under the name *Au Service de la Vie*, a movement inspired by some members was started to promote the harmonious development of man in respect to the laws of life, and to re-orient modern civilization in order to insure the protection and elevation of mankind. This movement is in co-operation with already existing bodies and benefits by the regular help of one of the leading illustrated weeklies of Paris.

Our monthly magazine, *Le Lotus Bleu*, founded by H. P. Blavatsky, not only conveys to the French-speaking members and friends some aspects of contemporary Theosophical thought through translations, but also presents a regular series of original studies by French-speaking con-

tributors, writers and scientists, on spirituality, philosophy, psychology and science related to Theosophy.

All news items related to the activities of the Society are published separately in a *Bulletin* called *La Vie Theosophique*.

Our Headquarters is improving its already fine property by up-to-date modernization of its Adyar Hall and Secretariat.

*Conclusion.*—The opening of a new cycle offers a new departure. The French Section, conscious of the mission entrusted to it, having by the structure of the French Union members in over twenty territories throughout the world, wishes ardently to strengthen its co-operation with all other Sections, and addresses to all the members of the Theosophical Society a very cordial and fraternal salutation.

Long live Theosophy.

FRANCIS BRUNEL,  
General Secretary.

## ITALY

The Italian Section contains at present 31 Lodges. These Lodges from the time of the 40th National Convention held in Florence in 1954, under the Presidency of Mr. N. Sri Ram, the International President, to the 41st National Convention held in May 1955 in Trieste, continued active work. They are inspired by the Theosophic principles and seek to apply them to the solution of the problems of human life.

The Lodges in Turin, Rome, Naples and Milan organized public lectures for the spreading of Theosophic thought.

The 41st Convention took place in Trieste, in order to fulfil an ancient promise of the Italian Section, and to

celebrate the reunion of that city with the Motherland. The Convention was very successful. The subjects discussed included ethical or religious teaching in schools, Theosophy as a universal code of life, science and freedom of conscience, the population problem and unemployment.

During the Convention the General Secretary had the opportunity of holding a news conference, which was of interest to reporters and was given publicity in the press.

During the year the Section had the good fortune to receive, for the second time, the International President. Mr. Sri Ram was welcomed with great joy at

Rome and Naples. He held a public meeting in Rome and took part in a friendly meeting in Naples in order to discuss some important problems in the light of Theosophy.

The Italian Section has done its best for the spreading and defence of Theosophical culture against the hostility of the

Catholic Church and the indifference of intellectuals. We trust in the ultimate victory of the great Theosophical ideals, because we believe that they represent the future of our civilization.

G. GASCO,  
*General Secretary.*

## GERMANY

There is but little to report for the year 1954-55. Regular study work was continued in all Lodges and centres in gatherings every week or fortnight. Lectures to members were regularly given and some Lodges arranged public lectures. In these cases sometimes the press has been invited and the lectures were reported in the newspapers. A few lecturers visited most of our Lodges and spoke on different subjects, so spreading the teachings of Theosophy and helping the members to make Theosophy a practical fact in daily life.

In November 1954 Mr. John Coats from England was visiting a number of refugee camps in Germany and in connection with this journey the Section was able to arrange that he paid a visit to numerous Lodges of the German Section.

In Rendsburg we have had our sixth summer school at which we had again the great privilege of Mr. Sri Ram to preside over it. There were more than a hundred members from all parts of our country present, including some from Berlin and from behind the iron curtain which still divides our country in two parts. They all were very much enriched by the wonderful lectures given by our President. There were also some German speakers and every day we had wonderful music offered by some members of the two Lodges in Hamburg. One day was occupied by an excursion to the Baltic Sea and all en-

joyed the wonderful weather and the beauty of the blue sea, its white shores and the lovely green woods.

During the whole week of the summer school all present lived in an atmosphere of kindness and brotherliness, and this experience was again a source of power for the profit of the coming work in all Lodges during the following year.

In August there was a meeting of the General Council of the European Federation in Huizen in the Netherlands and two German delegates, one of them being the General Secretary, were able to attend and once more to meet the President who was present there.

The German Section consists of 20 Lodges, one less than last year, three centres and nearly 100 members in places without a Lodge. The number of members is slowly but steadily increasing being now 472, an increase of 32 this year.

Our *Library* has been re-organized and a new list of books issued.

The book-selling department worked with good success and the interest in all books published by the Adyar-Verlag in Graz in the German language is increasing among members as well as the public. We are glad that it is now possible to import English Theosophical literature from Adyar and London.

MARTIN BOYKEN,  
*General Secretary.*



## CUBA

No Report

## HUNGARY

No Report

## FINLAND

The work has been carried on mainly along the old lines. All the 22 Lodges, 8 of which are in Helsinki, have held regular meetings.

The activities for children and young people have continued as before. The Lotus Circle has about 25 children and the Round Table 27 members. The Youth Group has had some meetings. Questions and answers meetings for the public were held every Saturday. All the traditional yearly festivals have been duly celebrated.

In November we were happy to have a visit from Mr. Otto Viking. He delivered two lectures in Helsinki and visited three places in the country.

The *Annual Convention* was, as usual, held at Easter with several meetings. There were about 150 members at each meeting and more than 200 at the public lecture.

At Whitsuntide 53 members made an excursion to Kreivilä which we had bought the previous autumn as our new summer home. An opening ceremony was held on Sunday night. The summer home was open for visitors from Whitsuntide until the 31st of August. All visitors, both members and non-members, have liked this place and felt themselves happy there.

In July we were honoured to greet our International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram. He arrived at Helsinki on the 4th and

delivered a public lecture the same night. The audience was about 250. Then he participated in our summer school at Kreivilä from the 5th to the 9th of July. He lectured every morning and one afternoon he answered questions. There were 127 at the School.

The visit of the President was a great event in the life of the Section. The effect of it will be felt for a long time.

Mr. Duncan Greenlees, too, visited Kreivilä during the summer school and spoke once to us.

This autumn the working season was begun with a gathering in Helsinki at the beginning of September. Mr. and Mrs. Valvanne from New Delhi were our guests of honour and told us about their experiences in India.

As we have not been able to publish new books, we have paid great attention to our official journal *Teosofi* so that it would serve as a herald of Theosophy both for the members of the Society and for people interested in Theosophy.

The membership to date stands at 549 as against 716 for the previous year. 19 persons during the year have joined the Society and 7 members passed from our midst. The decrease of 186 members is due to the new procedure suspending members of whom nothing has been heard over a period of two years.



So we are trying to find ourselves and solve the many problems which arise in the minds of every one of us. At the same time we are trying to help our neighbours

to solve their problems as far as it is in our power.

SIGNE ROSVALL,  
*General Secretary.*

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## RUSSIA

Section Dissolved

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## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No Report

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## SOUTHERN AFRICA

Although the *Cape Town Lodge* celebrated its Golden Jubilee in September 1954, the 1955 Convention was considered as its Jubilee. We congratulate the Cape Town Lodge and all its members on the very marked progress of the Lodge during the 50 years of its existence. May it grow from strength to strength.

*Committee.*—During the past year, being new to our work, our Committee members in Cape Town have done their best to become acquainted with the details of the administration, and to ensure that the work of the Section runs smoothly.

*Lodges and Centres.*—In Rhodesia, the Salisbury Lodge has grown so fast that it is now considered as one of the five largest Lodges in the Section. Bulawayo, having established quarters of its own, has an active and growing Lodge. To our five smaller Lodges in the Union must be added a new one recently formed at Fish Hoek.

*Membership.*—Our membership on the 31st December last stood at 581, a decrease of 44 on last year's figures. The decrease is the result of the healthy practice

of pruning away the dead wood. Members who forget to pay their Lodge and Section fees and take no interest in Lodge affairs are not worthy of being kept on our roll. They are a burden to our Section and obstacles to the healthy growth of any Lodge. 70 new members were admitted, with 3 readmissions and 2 gained from other Sections.

*Section Library.*—The bound volumes of the old *Theosophists* have now been completed at a cost of £14 and we are awaiting the arrival of the numbers of the old *Links* which are also being bound.

*Publicity Office.*—A large number of old pamphlets, some very old indeed, were offered free to all the Lodges for distribution, and about 4,000 are now being used in nearly every Lodge in the Union and Rhodesia. Mrs. Barberton, our Publicity Officer, has just returned from a visit to Italy, Switzerland, Holland, France and the United Kingdom where she investigated the possibility of obtaining new or better pamphlets, and the methods used in other Sections for promoting better publicity.

*Visiting Lecturers.*—It is always a great pleasure to have visiting lecturers, and among those whom we welcomed during the past year were Mrs. Mary Elmore, Mrs. Lavender Berry and Mr. Geoffrey Hodson. Mr. Hodson's lecture tour of the Union and Southern Rhodesia was a great success, and our only regret was that of necessity his stay in each centre was of such short duration. All Mr. Hodson's books which were ordered from India and England, and those which he sent out to us on his own account, were speedily sold, and to meet the demand for them after his visit, more have been ordered. Miss Codd and Mr. Hodson who were Guests of Honor at Convention, gave inspiring talks and shared with us the wisdom they have acquired during their long years of service in the Society.

*Institute for Theosophical Publicity.*—The value of the saleable stock on hand is approximately £200, and all outstanding debts have been cleared. The amount owing by Lodges was £359-10-11, but this figure has been reduced. All monies received from the sale of books on hand and in reduction of Lodge accounts should result in an amount of about £500 accruing to the benefit of the Section, but this will take some time to accomplish.

*Clara Codd Pension Fund.*—This fund is now in a sound position and donations were £51 more last year than previously received, but payments have been heavier.

*Annie Besant Commemorative Fund.*—Donations amounting to £140 were received during the year, and sent to Adyar, and a further £50 has since been received.

*Brother Raja Fund.*—We were able to send £55-2-0 to Adyar for this fund.

I take this opportunity of thanking all those generous donors who have supported these funds for work outside our Section.

*The Link.*—As the official organ of the Society in Southern Africa, this magazine should be edited by me, but with the consent of the National Council, it has been undertaken by my wife during the past year, except for the period she was overseas when it fell to me to do it. The printing of the magazine is now done in Cape Town, and the cover design has been altered.

While Mr. Hodson was in Cape Town, he kindly gave me several sittings so that I could model his head. Those who saw it considered it a good likeness and when funds permit I hope to have it cast in bronze and presented to the Theosophical Museum at Adyar.

On the whole, the work of the Section proceeds steadily, if slowly, and in the years ahead we look forward to welcoming visiting lecturers who always give us a new stimulus in the work and are a source of fresh inspiration and viewpoints to the older members.

I. MITFORD BARBERTON,  
General Secretary.

## SCOTLAND

The year 1954-1955 was one of quiet but steady work. Attendances in the first part of the winter were good, but the exceptionally severe conditions in the months of January, February and March resulted in a marked diminution in num-

bers. Nevertheless, all the usual activities were carried on throughout the session, and detailed reports from the Lodges also indicated, in most cases, the steady carrying on of the work, sometimes under difficult conditions.

The visiting lecturers were Mr. J. J. van Ginkel (whose death while with us was a great shock to us all) and Miss Gladys Taylor of Birmingham. The remaining dates were all filled in by our own members. The Library carries on its useful work, and contributions have been made to the Greek Refugee Camp and to the various funds at Adyar, and also to the Latvian family who have been under our care for some considerable time. The General Secretary's own activities included visits to all the Scottish Districts and also to England and Wales.

The membership at present stands at 287, a decrease of 9, as compared with the previous year.

The *Annual Convention*, which took place at the Glasgow premises, was graced by the presence of the President, Mr. Sri Ram, whose gracious and serene presence and impressive speeches were greatly appreciated by the members. On all sides there were expressions of how harmonious, helpful and inspiring the Convention had been.

At the close of the Convention, the retiring General Secretary, Mr. Gall, thanked all the members for their support during his ten years' tenure of office, and his successor, Mrs. Allan, then assumed office.

JEAN ALLAN,  
*General Secretary.*

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## SWITZERLAND

*Membership.*—Since the beginning of January 1955 our Section has had 8 incoming and 4 outgoing members. The membership now stands at 259. There has been an increase in the number of Lodges, which is now 13.

*Tours.*—We had the pleasure of a visit from Mrs. Rukmini Arundale. She gave a lecture and, at the Theatre de la Cour St. Pierre, dance demonstrations which were much appreciated.

The General Secretary travelled among the Lodges and she was able to judge that the work in the Section goes on as usual.

The most important event of our Section was the visit to Zurich, Basel and Geneva of our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram. It was a great honor for the Section to receive him and wherever he went the members welcomed him very heartily.

Several members had the opportunity of undertaking lecturing tours, which is a very important and useful work. These members gave their services willingly, and

many thanks are due to them and also to the faithful and devoted workers without whose help the work of the Section could not be kept going.

The *Annual Convention* was held this year in Basel, in the German-speaking part of Switzerland, on March 26th and 27th. A few members spoke on "Theosophy". The Convention was well attended and it was a pleasant opportunity to meet each other.

The work for the Refugees continues very well. The Camp of Kolokythou is now dissolved. Paul Gottraux, a young Swiss member is still there and continues, together with the General Secretary of the Greek Section, to do the work which is needed.

*Magazines.*—The German-speaking members receive *Adyar*, which is printed in Austria, and the French-speaking members receive *Clarté* which is printed in Belgium, both published under the auspices of the European Federation.

The Section has contributed during the year to various funds and its own financial condition is reasonably satisfactory.

I am sorry that I must mention the passing over of a very beloved member of our Section, Mrs. Trudy Kern, the President of the Lodge *Annie Besant* in Locarno. She was a well known and devoted member, her life being one of great service.

The international Camp of the Young Theosophists was held this year at Geneva in the garden of a devoted member, Mr. Albert Sassi. This gathering was very successful and the young people felt very

happy in the wonderful surroundings of the garden.

The two summer schools at Louette-St. Pierre (Belgium) and at Pichl (Austria) were most successful. Many members from our Section participated in these Schools. The General Secretary was at Pichl and she could judge how important such a week with concentrated work can be. I feel sure that the idea of this kind of Theosophical activity will influence the whole work of the Society.

CLAIRE WYSS,  
General Secretary.

## BELGIUM

*Membership.*—The present membership is 338, an increase of five. During the year a new Lodge *Dharma*, consisting of young people, received its Charter. Since its beginning it has done splendid work and will bring a new and useful impulse to the whole Section.

*Lecture Tours.*—The public lectures are always well attended, by an average of 60 people. At the end of September we had the joy of welcoming our International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who gave a public lecture and a question and answer meeting.

Miss Pascaline Mallet made a fruitful tour in Belgium visiting Liege, Ghent and Antwerp. Mr. Phan Chon Ton, President of the Young Theosophists of France, visited Brussels where he lectured and sang some Vietnamese chants. Mr. M. Kuppuswami from the Indian Embassy spoke on the Gita and Mr. Battaracharya from Bengal on the sacred music of his country.

There was a function at Christmas to help the refugees, and all Theosophical anniversaries have been celebrated. Mr.

van Dissel and Mr. Tripet also visited Belgium, while Mr. Polak and Mr. Chapellier visited France.

A prominent feature of the Belgian work this year was the reception of the Theosophists of South Holland by the Antwerp Lodge. Delegates of the Lodges at Amsterdam, Bussum, Rotterdam, Breda, Dordrecht, Flessinghe, and Eindhoven were present (52 members). About the same number came from Brussels, Ghent, Liege and Antwerp. It was a very happy day, presided over by Mr. J. E. van Dissel.

Belgium has done good work for the refugees. Since we began to help, we have sent to Kolokynthou 22 parcels containing clothes and food; more than 40.000 frs. B. Twice, we sent 6.000 frs. B. to train young people in a craft so as to help them to find work. We gave also 2.000 frs. B. for the Christmas Tree which brought so much happiness in the Camp. The High Commissioner for refugees wrote a very grateful letter on June 7th to the General Secretary.



The Belgium Government has granted to the Section this year a subsidy of 5,200 Belgian francs for our educational work. We have never received so much before. This is very encouraging.

At the Belgian Convention, it was agreed to grant to the Review *Clarté* a sum of 9,000 frs. B. and to send the Review free to all French-speaking members as does the Swiss Section, which grants the same sum. Let us hope that this help will be granted yearly till the Review is strong enough and known enough to stand on its own feet.

Last but not least, we had this year the election of a new General Secretary,

Mr. Th. Chapellier, his wife being also elected as member of the Committee. Mr. Chapellier and his wife will bring their whole dynamism and friendship to the Section, as well as their deep knowledge of Theosophy. I feel that I leave the Section in very good hands.

This was the last time I presided over the Belgium Convention. I thank heartily all my fellow workers for their brotherly and loving help.

Having been the General Secretary for more than 15 years I have been elected Honorary General Secretary for life.

SERGE BRISY,  
*General Secretary.*

## INDONESIA

*Membership.*—The number of Lodges increased from 18 to 21. The number of centres is 3. The new Lodges formed during this year were:

1. Yuwono at Djuana (Mid Java)
2. Bime Sene at Butuh, Kuteardjo (Mid Java)
3. Adnjana-Nirmala at Gianjar (Bali).

This is a re-established Lodge (charter of September 1936)

The 3 centres are: Muntilan, Adjisaka at Wates, Kediri (Mid Java) and Taloon at Kediri (Mid Java).

During 1954-1955 there were registered:

New Members	.. 72
Outgoing members	.. 25

The number of members increased by	.. 47
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The total number of members is	.. 750
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*Activities of the Section.*—The Board held its meetings at Djakarta in February,

June and October 1955. The meeting in February discussed the Annual meeting, which it was resolved should be held at Malang in April 1955. The Annual meeting took some important resolutions:

- (a) the annual contribution was increased from 9 to 15 rupiah.
- (b) the issue of our magazine "Madjalah P. T. T. I." was changed from Djakarta to Semarang.
- (c) a committee was formed for studying the possibilities of reviving the schools.
- (d) the constitution of the Section will be printed and distributed to all members.
- (e) a directory of the members will be issued.
- (f) a committee was formed to advance propaganda. For this purpose the contribution of the Lodges for the propaganda fund was increased from 4 to 10%.
- (g) the coming Annual meeting will be held at Semarang.



*The Activities of the Lodges.*—The activities of the Lodges this year were limited to meetings for members, study-courses for those interested, public lectures and meetings for celebrating Adyar Day, White Lotus Day, Wesak, Besant Day and Foundation Day, November 17th.

A handicap for the work of the Section is the lack of Theosophical books published in the Indonesian language. Several Lodges have succeeded in translating some

Dutch or English books, but it is still a problem for us how to get money for paying the printing costs. Thanks to our late Br. S. Roksiswoio we will soon have the profit from the book *At the feet of the Master*, which was translated and published by Br. Roksiswoio. This book was distributed free to all members.

SOEMARDJO,  
General Secretary.

## BURMA

There were nine active Lodges before the War broke out in 1941, but so far we have been able to revive only four. Attempts are, however, being made to revive the other Lodges.

*Olcott Lodge.*—The chief centre of activity is the Olcott Lodge in Rangoon, where regular Sunday morning lectures and discussions continue to attract people of many nationalities and religious inclinations. In all there were 8 public lectures and 18 discussion groups.

A farewell party was given in honor of Mr. H. M. Shroff on the eve of his departure to India on retirement. With his departure Burma loses one of her best veteran workers for Theosophy.

Another delightful function was the welcoming of the President of the Penang Theosophical Lodge, Dr. George Yeang, and his family, who visited us on their onward journey round the world.

*Lotus Lodge, Mandalay.*—Another year has passed, but the Lodge has not been able to obtain possession of its premises which have been occupied by a member who has not thought fit to give up possession, in spite of entreaties by members and friends both in Mandalay and in Rangoon. Regular meetings, however, were held at the residence of a member

where "Radio Talks on Theosophy" received from the Theosophical Lodge in Ventura in the Ojai Valley were studied. Members continued to take active interest in animal welfare and vegetarianism. Enamel signs advocating kindness to animals were especially ordered from abroad and displayed at vantage points and public buildings. *The Noble Eightfold Path* by Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater was printed and distributed during the year.

*Blavatsky Lodge, Maymyo.*—Theosophical classes have been regularly held. Much interest in Theosophy and allied subjects has been created amongst the people of the locality and membership is steadily increasing. U Maung Maung Hmin, an active member of the Lodge, accompanied the Venerable U. Lokanatha on his Dhamma Duta Tours throughout the country.

*Youth Lodge, Rangoon.*—Members have continued to give hearty co-operation in all the activities of the Society.

*Education.*—The School run by the Educational Trust is making steady progress.

*Book Depot.*—This has done useful work in supplying needs of libraries, including national libraries.

*The two Dharmas.*—A Burmese translation of this pamphlet by Mr. Jinarajadasa was printed and distributed at Pagoda festivals in Rangoon. The Burma Section printed 10,000 copies in English and the Humanitarian League 45,000 in Burmese.

*The Theosophist.*—Mr. N. A. Naganathan, a former General Secretary of Burma, gives 6 subscriptions which are supplied to important libraries.

*Finance.*—The closing balance shows an increase on last year.

*Publications Fund.*—This Fund was started with a sum of K 1500 which was made up of a substantial donation received from Mr. C. Jinarajadasa and the sale proceeds of a translation of

a book entitled *Asoka's Edicts*. To this sum has been added K 22.08 being cash realized on a cheque for \$5 from Sacramento, U.S.A. Though the donations were primarily made for the publication of *Asoka's Edicts* in Burmese, the Fund can now be utilized for the publication of any Theosophical literature in Burmese or English.

*Conclusion.*—As more and more active members who are non-nationals are leaving the country, more nationals will have to come forward to take up the work.

U PO LAT,

*General Secretary.*

## AUSTRIA

This year our Section was favored with the visit of the International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who visited the towns of Vienna, Graz and Bruck a.d. Mur from May 6th till May 12th 1955. He delivered public lectures as well as talks to the members. The visit of the President impressed people very much and gave our members deep satisfaction.

Mr. John Coats from London visited all our local Groups in Linz, Vienna, Bruck and Graz. He had good contacts with our members, especially as he delivered his talks in fluent German.

The activities in our Lodges were again very enthusiastically carried on. In Vienna and Graz fortnightly public lectures were delivered, while 12 Lodges held regularly lecture-meetings in their Lodge rooms.

At the beginning of September 1955, in the hamlet of Pichl in Styria, there took place the third summer school of the

German-speaking Region of the Theosophical Society in Europe, with great success. The number of visitors to it increased this year from 60 (last year) to 75. There were present, besides the Austrian members, also 12 visitors from Switzerland, 5 from Holland, 2 from Germany and 6 guests from Yugoslavia. The chief topic of the summer school was: *Towards a new age of spirituality*. The topic was discussed by 7 speakers on different lines. They stressed the need to bring a more spiritual attitude into the different activities of the creative mind.

The lectures delivered at this summer school have been manifolded and are on sale. The proceeds will be used for the funds of the summer school.

*Membership.*—This year our membership is 312, an increase of 9.

FRITZ SCHLEIFER,  
*General Secretary.*

## NORWAY

The work in the Norwegian Section during the last year has been kept at a good level, and the Lodges both in Oslo and in the other towns have intensified their activities, resulting in well attended meetings. More attention is now being given to members' meetings, and the result has been a stronger interest in the work.

During March the General Secretary visited the western Lodges and groups in Stavanger, Haugesund and Bergen. Two new Lodges were formed in Stavanger and Bergen, the latter consisting exclusively of vegetarians, and being the result of Mr. Harold Hoseth's energetic work.

The *Annual Convention* was held at Oslo during the month of May, and was well attended.

The President's visit in the middle of July was the great event of the year. His presence and inspiring lectures left a lasting impression on us all and greatly strengthened the ties between Headquarters and our Section. One of his lectures was open to the public, and in spite of the unfavorable time—in the middle of the vacation season and the

very hot weather, it drew a good audience.

This autumn we have again taken up the practice of giving public lectures on the Theosophical platform. Several such lectures have been given, and it is notable that more people seem to be attracted to Theosophy. One of these lectures: "What Life Itself Can Tell us about Our Own Fate," by Mrs. Louise Havrevold, was also given at a Women's Club, with an attendance of about 100.

Our Sectional magazine, *Norsk Teosofisk Tidsskrift*, has been kept going as usual with 6 numbers per year, and aims at making a close link between Headquarters and each member.

In October we had a visit from Mr. Otto Viking, and, as usual, all our work received a great stimulus from his lectures and talks.

The Section has contributed during the year to the Adyar Fund and to the refugee work for the Kolokyntou Camp.

ERLING HAVREVOLD,  
*General Secretary.*

## EGYPT

No Report

## DENMARK

Besides general Lodge meetings for members, public lectures have been given at Aarhus and Copenhagen.

This year is characterized by an increasing interest in Theosophy and the Theosophical point of view. The Section

had during the year an increase of membership of 32. The number of members is now 373.

At Easter the Section was visited by Miss Winifred Knowles from Cardiff. We all appreciated her lively and inspiring lectures.

The *Annual Convention* was held at Aalborg on the 7th and 8th of May. The Convention was divided in two different activities. The one dealt with business affairs, the other consisted in members' meetings with lectures and entertainments. In the evening the General Secretary lectured on the subject: "Religion and Religions." White Lotus Day was celebrated on May 8th.

During the days from 15th till 25th of July a summer school was held at Gammel Præstegaard. The President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, was the Guest of Honor and the meetings were led by Mrs. Ransom. The gathering was visited by

about 80 members from Norway, Sweden, Finland, England, Holland and Denmark. Harmony and friendship prevailed the whole time. The motto of the summer school was: *In the Masters' Service*.

Also in Besantgaarden, the home of Otto and Anna Viking, a summer school was held, dedicated both to Theosophy and to the Liberal Catholic Church. The Danish Section is very grateful for all the Theosophical information and influence, which during the years are spread from Besantgaarden.

J. H. MÖLLER,  
General Secretary.

## IRELAND

During October 1954 Mr. J. J. van Ginkel visited Dublin and Cork. His meetings were friendly and interesting and it was a shock to hear of his sudden illness and passing a few weeks later.

It made us very happy to welcome Mr. John Coats again last November, his lantern lectures were very much appreciated; he also travelled to Cork and spoke to Cork Lodge. We had a very interesting and instructive week in May this year, when Miss Caroline Davey visited us and gave a talk to members; she also visited Cork Lodge. Other visitors from overseas whom we were very glad to welcome were Miss E. Keene and Mrs. Walker who gave public lectures. On two occasions Dr. Hugh Shearman, organizing Secretary for the T. S. in Northern Ireland, visited us and gave lectures which were much appreciated.

Other speakers during the year were: Mrs. A. Lamb, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. C. Parfitt, Mr. R. Duck, Mrs. Alice Law, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Hornidge, Mrs. Gourley and the Rev. Savell Hicks. The question and

discussion meetings have proved very interesting.

Another interesting feature was the Lecture Tableaux written by Mrs. Lilian Yates; these are a novel way of introducing the Ancient Wisdom to the public. The members' meetings have been well attended and have been very interesting and instructive. The study group remains small but about the same number all the time. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Pielou for all the trouble he has taken with this group. Attendance at the public meetings has on the whole been very good.

At the Annual Business meeting of the Dublin Lodges held Jan. 14th I was elected as General Secretary and Mr. Pielou as National Treasurer.

On White Lotus Day there was a small gathering. It was commemorated in the usual manner by readings and a short survey of the work of the Founders.

The Library has added a good many books and is open two days a week, as well as after all meetings. Sales from



our book table have been satisfactory, and we have distributed many leaflets.

The magazine *Theosophy in Ireland* continues with three issues yearly.

Very good work has been done in aid of the European Refugee Fund.

Our *Annual Convention* was held on June 17th to 19th with Dr. and Mrs. Bendit as our Guest Speakers. We had a very full, happy and live Convention and the inspiring lectures of our visitors were much appreciated.

In conclusion I would like to say that in our new Headquarters we have a peaceful and harmonious atmosphere and I feel

that this has made a great difference in the work we do. Here we have harmony, and peace and friendliness making an atmosphere which is felt by all who enter our doors. One cannot overestimate the importance of these things in the work that we do, in the channel that we try to make, and my hope is, that whatever forces are able to flow into our Headquarters at any time may find in us, as the years go by, an ever-widening and more helpful channel.

EVELYN O. HORNIDGE,  
General Secretary.

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## MEXICO

Life in this Section is to all appearances running upwards in steady progress, as we had an increase in membership of 46 against 19 in 1954 and 6 in 1953. Our active Lodges amount to 26, plus 3 dormant and *one destroyed by the hurricane* near Tampico. We also have 4 centres, our active members amounting to 549.

Our 1954 Convention was held on Dec. 28-29 at the city of Puebla, the young Lodge *Alfa* being the host. Delegates from 17 Lodges enjoyed the gatherings and banquet, as well as visits to the largest Toltec Pyramid in the world at Cholula. We also saw the first Catholic Church constructed on the American Continent.

The General Secretary was re-elected for the ensuing year (1955), thus entering his 20th term of office.

In company with Mr. Salvador Tayabas, the General Secretary went to Jojutla, State of Morelos, on the occasion of the birth of the new Lodge *Dharma* in that city where Theosophy had never before

been spoken of. Both lectured twice and some 20 diplomas were delivered.

A 20 days' lecture tour was started on May 10th by the General Secretary crossing the country from northeast to southwest. At Matamoros, on the border opposite Texas, he delivered three public lectures in a large Masonic Hall. A band of some 20 musical instruments was kindly supplied by the Mayor of the City for the opening and closing of the meetings. On the 13th of May he lectured at Monterrey and put its Charter into the hands of the President of the new Lodge *Luz y Progreso*. On the 17th he visited the city of Zacatecas conducting three meetings at the local Lodge *Luz y Verdad*, then going to the small town of Sombrerete, the place where Thomas Alva Edison was born.

On the 24th May the General Secretary arrived at Colima where two lectures were delivered at a local museum, the curator of which is a lady member of the *Australia* Lodge. He was surprised to see a small statue found in an ancient



excavation near the Pacific coast, representing exactly a man as seen in the plate on page 472 of the book—*The Lives of Alcyone* viz., a Peruvian "Tlecolen" or chief bearing the same cut of hair, same twisted metal hair-ring and the same pectoral as worn 14,000 years ago.

From September 24th to 28th in company with two brethren he visited the southern and extensive State of Oaxaca where Theosophy is scarcely known, lecturing at the seaport of Salina Cruz where a robust Lodge of 39 members was founded by our enthusiastic brother Brig-Gen. Rafael Cancino Palacios, this being the fourth Lodge he has organized within 18 months.

Mrs. Luz Maria Durand de Baraya, on her return home, has resumed her splendid public work. Early in May she started a series of public lectures among different organizations and halls. Her own former capacities, now illumined by Theosophy, make her lectures very attractive to the hundreds of her listeners. After lecturing at our local Lodges, four northern Lodges have already been visited by her and she expects to visit others *en route* to Central America.

The rural free primary school directed by Sister Aura Chagoya at our Theosophical colony 20 miles from here, shows continued progress. 39 poor children are now being educated free.

As customary, weekly public lectures were held at Headquarters, beginning in February and ending before the rainy season in June. The performance of the

inspiring Ritual of the Mystic Star was also carried on every other Sunday at Headquarters.

Far to the north-west, bordering California, at the city of Tijuana, our Lodge there *Luz de Occidente* is honoring its name, being reported by members and several other visitors as a perfect Lodge, the members being full of mutual love and service to others, ready to study and teach Theosophy.

Our *Sectional Bulletin* has regularly been mailed to our members and to many Lodges abroad, thus keeping them all in touch with our work. As formerly, 48,000 copies of the little review *Dharma* were freely distributed, in the course of the year, among eight thousand permanent readers. Mr. Pavri's excellent book *Teosofia Explicada*, in the Spanish language, is at last out of the press, beautifully edited and bound. Copies are being sold cheaply to members following the author's wishes.

We are expecting Miss Zahara's visit. She is to arrive at Merida (Yucatan) on the 23rd of December next, flying thence to Mexico City on the 28th when our *Annual Convention* will be opened, herself to deliver the Convention public lectures. On the last day of the year we shall take her to visit Teotihuacan, the site of a large prehistoric Toltec city built round the two huge Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon.

ADOLFO DE LA PEÑA GIL,  
General Secretary.

## CANADA

During the past year there has been much activity in the Canadian Section. The Montreal Lodge celebrated its 50th Anniversary with appropriate functions

which I was happily able to attend. That Lodge, with its new President, has become animated with a new spirit which bodes well for the future. I also went to Winnipeg

to reopen the Lodge there which had been defunct for many years. It was largely through my visit to that place last year that this happy event came about. In the short time since its rebirth it has already made a name for itself by its stand for animal welfare. Both by radio and press notices it has put Theosophy on the map by its active participation against vivisection, with the result that it has had crowded meetings of persons wishing to know what Theosophy is all about. I feel sure that the interest thus created in central Canada will bear fruit.

Toronto Lodge is as usual very animated and draws good attendance of the public at its meetings which are always made very interesting. Something worthy of note is its travelling library. This library loans books to students across Canada who do not have access to Theosophical Libraries. During the year 633 books were thus borrowed; and as a result of advertising in a national farm newspaper about 200 catalogues were mailed to new enquirers. The Montreal and Hamilton Lodges are unusually active and we are most anxious to get lecturers to them to help the growing interest and enthusiasm.

Our membership is now 382.

Our Editor, Mr. Dudley W. Barr made a tour of the western Lodges in September, practically the same as I did last year, and was enthusiastically welcomed at Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria and Vancouver. These two visits have energized the whole Section with the result that there is unwonted activity in our Lodges throughout the country. This exemplifies the necessity, not to say urgency, of personal visits by the Executive to vivify and maintain interest in the work. But it must be remembered that this Section covers an enormous extent of territory—larger than the United States—and that we are few in number and resources are meagre to carry out the schemes that we have in mind and wish to achieve. But the prospects are bright, and we are full of enthusiasm knowing that Theosophy will make headway in this great and growing land, and that it will eventually bloom and blossom like the proverbial fruit tree.

E. J. THOMSON,

*General Secretary.*

## ARGENTINA

The membership of the Theosophical Society in Argentina now stands at 1,443 and the number of Lodges 62.

*Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale.*—We have had the pleasure and the privilege of two short visits from Rukmini Devi before and after her attending at Montevideo, Uruguay, as a member of the Indian Delegation to the UNESCO Conference held in that place during November 1954.

The first time she came 250 members gave her a warm welcome at the airport.

The second time she gave an interesting talk to members in the hall of "Biblioteca

Teosofica Argentina" in Buenos Aires, and also another in the hall of the "Centro Teosofico de Estudios y Biblioteca Annie Besant" at Rosario. At "Museo Mitre," she gave a public address.

*Magazine.*—Our magazine now appears as *Teosofia en Argentina*, and there are articles from our leaders, and news from Adyar, Sections and Lodges.

*Press.*—A pioneer work is the magazine *El Teosofa*, the Spanish version of *The Theosophist* under the editorship of Señor Salim Alfredo Wehbe.

*Visit to Lodges.*—After Señor Enrique Oscar Gossweiler took charge as General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Argentina, he made a rapid visit to Lodges in the cities of Eva Peron, Mar del Plata, Rio Cuarto, Mendoza, and San Rafael, returning to Rosario, where now are the Headquarters for three years. Visits were also made to *Cordoba Lodge*.

*Myrta Barvié.*—Miss Myrta Barvié and her mother Mrs. Argelia Guevara Morales de Barvié from Buenos Aires, in the last

month of June, made a visit to ADYAR. Both members are from *Meditation Lodge*.

*Miss Helen V. Zahara.*—In the tour for six months of Miss Helen V. Zahara throughout Latin American countries, we expect that she will be able to come to our country next October, for we so need the atmosphere of Adyar, the spiritual centre of the world.

ENRIQUE O. GOSSWEILER,  
General Secretary.

## CHILE

During the past year we have had to face the hard task of dealing with elements strange to the spirit of the Theosophical Society and of Theosophy, which have interpreted liberty of thought, proclaimed in the resolution of the General Council dated 23 December 1924, as authorization to spread teachings and doctrines which are not in accord with our objects and basic teachings.

We have obtained the legal restitution of the building property belonging to the Section in Santiago, and we have published and obtained approval of the new Rules which will ensure the continuation of our work, eliminating or adding such dispositions as did not offer sufficient clarity in their interpretation. This new set of Rules will serve as a guide for the future, so that there shall be no departure from the path of realization of our teachings.

In order to interest in Theosophy those people who can work effectively for the Theosophical Society, we have taken the necessary steps for the future formation of leaders who will be serious and responsible and who can take the initiative

in working for the spread of our ideals, stimulating also the work of those human elements who at present are simply listeners.

The work effected has been possible thanks to the enthusiastic collaboration of those members of the Executive Committee of the Section, and also to the members of the Lodges generally, who have been able to appreciate that our work is democratic and impersonal. Therefore we are sincerely happy to be able to end the year in an atmosphere of fraternal peace, union and collaboration mutually among the Lodges, both in Santiago and in Valparaiso.

We have taken the opportunity of encouraging the formation of a Theosophical youth group, which we consider necessary for the renewal of the sap of the tree of Theosophy. Nevertheless, we hope to be able to count on members who are young, enthusiastic and free from prejudice who will co-operate with us in strengthening the Theosophical Society.

*Membership.*—At the present time the Chilean Section is carrying on its work through ten Lodges: *Arundhati, Annie*

*Besant, Amor, Servidores* and *H. P. Blavatsky* in Santiago; *Lob-Nor, Fraternidad, Prometeo* and *Nirvana* in Valparaiso; and *Destellos* in Antofagasta. The

total number of our active members is 148.

LUIS TAPIA ALARCON,  
General Secretary.

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## BRAZIL

*Membership.*—The total membership is now 856.

*Theosophists' visits to our country.*—Last December we had the privilege of a visit from Mrs. Rukmini Arundale. We are deeply grateful for the lofty and spiritual impression she left with us, for her words full of charm, and her unusual personality.

Mr. Raul Wynard and his wife visited us for a few days. In August and September Miss Helen Zahara visited a number of cities in Brazil. Her excellent lectures were delivered in Spanish and awakened general interest. She made suggestions for the enlarging of the field of Theosophical work in our country. We offer her our earnest thanks for her fine work in our midst.

*Annual Convention.*—Our Annual Convention took place in December and was attended by members from different states of Brazil. Subjects of general interest were discussed with great enthusiasm and cordiality. As Sao Paulo was commemorating in 1954 its fourth centenary, the members had the opportunity to visit various functions and exhibitions which formed part of the festivities.

*Activities of Lodges.*—Two new Lodges were formed, *Ilha do Governador* and

*Lotus Branco*, during the year. There was also formed a Confederation of Theosophical Lodges in Rio de Janeiro and Nicteroi. Propaganda work in Sao Paulo has been successful.

*Basic Course in Theosophy.*—This course continued every Friday in Sao Paulo Lodge, fulfilling the programme of the two series into which it was divided. In August a series of classes on mental concentration was begun, using Mr. Ernest Wood's book and drawing an attendance of about 40 people. Many of those attending the classes have joined the Society.

*Our own Property.*—The last instalment on the ground on which we intended to build our Headquarters has now been paid. Up to the present there has been some doubt as to whether the Government will allow us to carry out our plans. The matter is now being reconsidered.

*Theosophical Publications.*—A number of pamphlets have been translated and are being used. A new translation of the latest edition of *First Principles of Theosophy* is in the press. The review *O Teosofista* continues bi-monthly.

TENENTE ARNANDO SALES,  
General Secretary.

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## BULGARIA

No Report

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## ICELAND

The work of the Society in Iceland has been carried on in very much the same manner as before. We have grown in numbers, and indeed we have been overshadowed by a spirit of growth and promise for the future. Two new Lodges were founded. One of them, *Dogun* (Dawn), is going to make Buddhism and general philosophy its special study.

The Order of Service was very active and diligent in collecting money.

The magazine of the Section, *Gangleri*, has been issued twice as usual.

Twice a month my study group *The Black Rose* met in the Headquarters Hall.

We had 29 new members this year.

At the Annual Convention held on October 2nd I had the great honor of being re-elected General Secretary for the 20th time, and for that reason I was

presented with a generous gift from the members.

Every winter we have "propaganda evenings", 3 in number, and then some of our members give lectures on Theosophical subjects. But on the whole we are a little cautious in these matters, Theosophy not being a religion and the Icelandic Nation not receptive to any kind of fanaticism. We are not shouting Theosophy from the house-tops but rather whispering it into the ears of our countrymen, if I might be allowed to say so. But all the same, many of them receive the message with an open mind and heart, and Theosophical teachings and ideas filter into the national consciousness as a fructifying stream from high places.

GRETAR FELLS,  
General Secretary.

## SPAIN

No Report

## PORTUGAL

During this period of activities the existing Lodges *Isis*, in Lisbon; *Horus*, in Lisbon; *Visconde Figaniere*, in Lisbon; *Annie Besant*, in Lisbon; *Pitogoras*, in Lisbon, *Lotus Branco*, in Lisbon; *Sao Paulo*, in Lisbon; *Alcyone*, at Matozinhos; *Krishnamurti*, at Ponte do Lima; *Dharma*, in Oporto, have continued their normal activities. Lodge *Koot Hoomi* (Lisbon), has not yet recommenced its work, because of some difficulties of its members but it is not

extinguished, and its President hopes to begin the meetings very soon. The small groups in the towns of the Provinces continue their work with enthusiasm.

*Membership*.—We have now 250 active members.

We celebrated this year, with the same regularity, the great Theosophical festivals. We hold general meetings every fortnight to permit to all members a more intimate contact with the Theosophical teachings—some under the form of symposiums and

others by lectures, in order to increase their knowledge of comparative religion and philosophy, and all Theosophical subjects.

As regards the financial situation, the life of the Society goes on with the same difficulties.

FELIX BERMUDEZ,  
General Secretary.

## WALES

*Membership.*—The members on 30th September numbered 183 as compared with 188 in September 1954. The high proportion of members lapsed is largely due to removal from Wales and the fact that members have not notified their new addresses so that transfer could be effected. During this year, we lost by death one of our oldest and most valuable members, Miss Alice Banks, who was National Librarian for over 20 years.

*Our Annual Convention* was held in May in Colwyn Bay. Mrs. D. Groves was our guest speaker. Once again White Lotus Day was celebrated during the Convention weekend, which greatly added to the inspiration of a very happy and successful gathering. We try to hold our Convention alternately in North and South Wales.

*Visitors to the Section.*—During the year, the Section was greatly helped by the visits of lecturers from other sections. Mr. Gall (Scotland), Mrs. Hornidge (Ireland), Miss Graham (New Zealand), Miss Davey (Liverpool) and Mrs. B. Coats have given us long weekends. Lecturers from the S. Western and N. Western Federations of the English Section are always ready to help in our lecture programmes and we are grateful to them.

*Tape Recording.*—Some of the lectures of our President and of Mr. G. Hodson have been made available to the Cardiff Lodge through the generosity and zeal of Mr. Whitting of Bristol.

The Section was represented at the meetings of the *European Council* held at Huizen by a young Theosophist—Miss Vera Richards—who has been secretary to the National Council and the Wales Theosophical Trust for 7 years.

The *National Council* met 4 times during the year. The General Secretary attended a meeting of the British Isles and Ireland Regional Committee in London in May.

The *Theosophical Order of Service* has been re-established and the President has appointed as Chief Brother Mr. Charles James, the present President of Cardiff Lodge. Mr. James is Vice-Chairman of the Cardiff Branch of U.N.A. and close co-operation exists between the Section and the Headquarters of Wales U.N.A. In the autumn collection for U.N.I.C.E.F. the Cardiff Lodge assisted materially, collecting £85 in Central Cardiff in connection with the special appeal made to help the world's children.

*Camp Adoption Scheme.*—Active assistance has been given by the Section. We have also secured the co-operation of U.N.A. in arranging a meeting for Mrs. Coats to speak about *The Wings of Friendship* scheme. She spent a busy weekend in Cardiff in September and obtained good co-operation from industry.

*Raja Commemorative Fund.*—£51-6-0 has been contributed up to date by the Section.

*Headquarters Building.* Our Headquarters is now clear of mortgage payments. The last payment was made in March of this year.

The *General Secretary* and *National Treasurer* were re-elected in March for a further period of three years.

*Conclusion.*—Looking back we can feel glad that good work has been done in various directions. A decrease in mem-

bership is always disappointing though this does not always mean lack of progress. The loss of members who lapse is, however, a matter for concern. We would like to see greater zeal and onepointedness amongst the majority instead of just the few.

E. CLAUDIA OWEN,  
*General Secretary.*

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## POLAND

No Report

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## URUGUAY

The Uruguayan Section received great help from the presence in Montevideo of Mrs. Rukmini Arundale, who was an Indian Delegate to the UNESCO Conference which took place in this city during the months of November and December. Mrs. Rukmini Devi gave many public lectures in our Lodges and in the Ateneo de Montevideo. She also offered an exhibition of Hindu dances in the best municipal theatre of Montevideo, at which performance many people were present. The theatre was completely full and the sincere applause proved that Uruguay is really interested in all manifestations of the art of India.

The present General Secretary, Mr. Mario Radaelli, has planned a programme

of activities in which all members, old and new, can freely collaborate in order to carry the message of Theosophy to all parts of our country by means of public lectures and printed material.

We are now awaiting the arrival of Miss Helen V. Zahara, who during her tour around South American countries will give some public lectures in Montevideo.

Our National Section has now 114 members, distributed in 7 Lodges all working in Montevideo. The year covered by this report has been one of growing activity and of slow but constant progress.

MARIO RADAELLI,  
*General Secretary.*

## PUERTO RICO

*Membership.*—We have now 107 members, a gain of 4.

Mrs. Luz Maria Durand Baraya and her husband stayed in Puerto Rico till February of this year. They gave two lectures every month, besides holding two study groups every week. Señors J. Gonzalez Quinones and Eladio Lopez have continued the study group work.

Dr. Alfonso has been giving lectures once a month on Theosophy and other subjects related to it, which have helped to spread our Wisdom in every way.

Mr. A. J. Plard, former General Secretary, continued with his Sunday morning classes. His work is splendid as it helps to provide knowledge to those who are wrapped up in their work and do not have much spare time to read.

The radio programme following the booklets written in Krotana is conducted by Mr. J. Gonzalez Quinones. The talks are translated into Spanish and the programme goes on the air every Sunday morning from 9.30 to 9.45 a.m. through one of our most powerful radio stations in Puerto Rico.

All the festivities of the year have been celebrated, including United Nations Day. We held our Convention on April 8th, and it seemed very successful. The

Lodges were well represented in numbers and the members seemed very optimistic.

Our magazine *Heraldo*, though still in mimeograph, is very popular. We try to translate some of the best articles from our journals from all over the world into Spanish and deliver it free of charge to all the Spanish-speaking countries. I receive many letters from members of the Lodges which it reaches and they are delighted with the co-operation we are giving them.

Miss Helen Zahara was in Puerto Rico from August 10th to 17th, leaving here for Venezuela. She is making a tour all through the Spanish-speaking countries. She gave five interesting talks in perfect Spanish. It is amazing to see how well she can do it. To hear her from the tribune you would think she had been in our countries for years. We enjoyed very much having her with us. Our only regret was that her stay was too short.

With this activity we closed the year hoping that our efforts will not be in vain, and that in the near future the Light of Theosophy will be spread all over our little island.

ESPERANZA C. HOPGOOD,  
*General Secretary.*

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## RUMANIA

No Report

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## YUGOSLAVIA

No Report

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## CEYLON

Our Lodges, numbering nine as in the previous year, have continued to work under the inspiration left by our distinguished visitors, Mr. and Mrs. Rohit Mehta and Mr. M. Subramaniam at the start of the year.

We have been greatly helped and inspired by having had among us from time to time many prominent members of the Society on their way between the International Headquarters and all quarters of the globe.

Our membership has remained at just over two hundred. Among the out-station towns for which Brother M. Subramaniam, during his stay in Ceylon, had taken preliminary steps for the formation of Lodges, was Kurunegala, the capital city of the North Western Province. A revival of interest has been created by the visit of Mrs. Mary Elmore and we look forward to an advancement of work in that out-station town. An application

has been made for a Charter for the formation of a Lodge there.

The Annual Convention was held on 10th and 11th September. We missed the presence of Miss Emma Hunt, the Recording Secretary. She had agreed to preside on that occasion, but was prevented by ill-health from leaving Australia in time for it. We received unexpected and very welcome assistance from Headquarters in the person of Mrs. Mary Elmore, thanks to whom the programme framed in consultation with Miss Hunt was carried out as planned. A note on Convention activities appeared in the October 1955 issue of *The Theosophist*. Our warmest thanks go out to the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, and Mrs. Mary Elmore for their kind and timely intervention and valuable help.

N. K. CHOKSY,  
General Secretary.

## GREECE

The Greek Section had the happiness to receive the visit of our venerated President Mr. Sri Ram who gave two lectures to the members of our Section. The personality of the President made a deep impression on everybody.

The Lodges are still seven and the members number 220. The Greek Section has financial difficulties in the keeping of our office accommodation and for the regular issue of our Theosophical bulletin. An effort has been made to change our bulletin to a periodical for a broader circulation, which would promote very much the aims of our Society in Greece. This effort is still under development.

The harmonious collaboration of all the members of our Section is continued. We feel very happy to report the reunion with the group of our brother John Haritos, who was one of the first valuable workers in the formation of the Greek Theosophical Section.

The cultivation of brotherhood between all peoples and liberty of thought in the country where democracy was born, are always our chief aims.

On the occasion of the International Pythagorean Congress in Athens, our General Secretary gave two lectures last spring in Parnassos Hall, Athens, with the following subjects: "The Greek Philosophers prior to Socrates" and

"Pythagoras and the Pythagorean Spirit". Nevertheless we had no official participation at this Congress, following the instructions of our President.

The Greek Theosophical Library has been enriched with the translation of Edwin Arnold's book, *The Light of Asia* by our Secretary, Mr. Timoleon Vratsanos, and also with another book written by Mr. K. Melissaropoulos, *Jesus from the aspects of Rationalism and Mysticism*.

A great number of our members worked for the establishment of a Society aiming

at the abolition of capital punishment in Greece.

Many of our members worked for the relief of the refugees in Camp Kolokyntou which had been adopted by Theosophists of Europe and U.S.A. under the leadership of Madame de Berg of Geneva and Mr. Alexander Logofet of Washington. Nevertheless, the main object of the Theosophical Society cannot be the systematic relief at a materialistic level of a small number of the numerous needy persons existing on earth.

KOSTIS MELISSAROPOULOS,  
*General Secretary.*

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## CENTRAL AMERICA

No Report

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## PARAGUAY

No Report

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## PERU

No Report

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## PHILIPPINES

During the past twelve months from October 1, 1954 to September 30, 1955, the Philippines Section engaged in various Theosophical activities which were primarily designed to promote brotherhood and to help to liberate the minds of people.

Public meetings were held every Sunday and on special occasions. Thirty-five

lectures were given. Nineteen were delivered by Dr. Benito F. Reyes, National President, four by Mrs. Dominga L. Reyes, National Vice-President; three by the Countess of Mayo, visiting member of a London Lodge; two by Mr. Jose G. Cabrera, President, Buhay Lodge; two by Mr. Augustin F. Miravite, President, Quezon Lodge; and one each by

Dr. G. P. Malalasekera, a Theosophist from Ceylon; Mr. Francisco T. Escudero, Director of Studies; Mr. Sebastian Cataroja, President, Ilaw Lodge; and Dr. Horacio Monzon, former National Vice-President. The two series of lectures on the Theory of Communication, called "Orientations of Freedom" and "Language and Freedom", given by the National President, were well attended and attracted many professionals who were non-members.

A leadership class under Lieutenant Commander José R. Zulueta, National Treasurer, and Captain Augusto M. Reyes, National Secretary, and an elementary class on Theosophy under Mr. Francisco T. Escudero, were conducted for two months and eight months, respectively. Open to members and non-members, these classes were held on Sunday afternoons before the public lectures.

Two old members, Mr. Domingo C. Argente and Mr. Elias Felix, gave lectures in some Lodges in Manila.

There were ten inter-Lodge meetings which featured literary-musical numbers and talks from leading members and prominent guests. Special programmes were held to commemorate Foundation Day, Christmas, Good Friday and White Lotus Day. The National President gave a three-hour talk on the "Occult Interpretation of the Seven Last Words of the Christ" on Good Friday. Mr. Ramon V. Socco, was largely responsible for the successful planning and co-ordination of all the programmes.

Monthly full moon meditation meetings were led by the National President during which he read inspiring passages. These meetings were held from 8.30 to 9.30 in the evening of the full moons.

The Theosophical Order of Service of this Section was reorganized and revitalized under the leadership of Mrs. Dominga L. Reyes.

The *Annual Convention* on December 12th 1954 was attended by delegates from all the Lodges of this Section. It was a lively whole-day affair.

The National President, with the help of some earnest young members, continued to influence the intensification of Lodge work through periodic Lodge visitation. The planning and co-ordination of the Section's work was carried out by means of the regular weekly "idea" meetings of the Board of Trustees and several volunteer servers, and through the monthly meetings of the National Council. The National Council meetings were jointly co-ordinated by Eduardo M. Cuirnalda, President of the Lotus Lodge, and Eutropio Migrño, Assistant National Secretary.

This Section was strengthened by the organization of the Quezon Lodge in Quezon City on August 19, 1955. The total active membership of this Section on September 30, 1955 was 204, with twenty-nine new members admitted.

Captain Augusto M. Reyes, Executive Officer and National Secretary, was sent as a government pensionado to the Adjutant General's School, Indiana, U.S.A. As a representative of the National President, he attended the National Convention of the American Section. He also visited Krotona. During his absence from the Philippines from April to September 1955, Mr. Nicolas P. Tayao served as Executive Officer, while Eutropio Migrño acted as National Secretary.

The National President was removed in June 1955 from his position as Head of the Philosophy Department, Institute of Arts and Sciences, Far Eastern University, Manila, and he was relieved from teaching all philosophy subjects in this institution on account of his being the President of the Theosophical Society in the Philippines. He has been assigned to teach only English subjects. Also,

2000 copies of the literary magazine of this University were suppressed because its editorial was sponsoring the cause of academic freedom and the case of Dr.

Reyes. The petition of students to restore Dr. Reyes in the Philosophy Department was denied by the University's Board of Trustees.

BENITO K. REYES,  
*General Secretary.*

## COLOMBIA

We have continued the publication of the 32 pages pamphlets, and during this year we have issued three new numbers as follows :

No. 10—La Vida Post-Mortem (Life after Death) 1,000 copies.

No. 11—The Power of Thought (El Poder del Pensamiento) 1,000 copies.

No. 12—Telepathy (Telepatia), 1,000 copies.

As we had forecast a year ago, there was a considerable number of lapsings during this year. Most of them were members who requested admission during the visit of Mrs. Luz Maria Durand, apparent-

ly without any real interest in Theosophy. Also, three of our outstanding members died during the year. These losses were partially counterbalanced by 39 new admissions.

Also we are sorry to report that two Lodges have been closed, temporarily I hope, because of the difficulty in meetings for political reasons. Several other Lodges are working under the same handicap, but manage to keep alive.

The membership is now 162.

CORINA M. SANDERS,  
*General Secretary.*

## EAST AFRICA

The East African Section consists of four territories, namely, Zanzibar, Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. Thus the Section as a whole covers a very large area. There are many difficulties in regard to transport and communication, and the Executive has to face these in the attempt to spread the message of Theosophy. Nevertheless, the members of the Executive Committee, with the help of the work done by the more enthusiastic members of the big Lodges, have to a large extent succeeded in achieving satisfactory progress throughout the year under review.

*Membership.*—It now stands at 624 as against 325 in the previous year *i.e.*, it shows a definite gain of 299 which bespeaks an encouraging result. There is a great wave of enthusiasm and love for the Ancient Wisdom amongst the educated people of Africa and some who formerly showed surprise on hearing the word "THEOSOPHY" have become members. The new Africa that is steadily coming up from its old dark days is rapidly growing in knowledge under the influence of democracy, and it is but natural that the thirst for the search for the Ancient Wisdom increases simultaneously. This



the local Executive Committee know well and have done their best to take time by the fore-lock. The members of the Committee did their best to tour the far distant places and to make the existing Lodges stand on a sound footing. At the same time, distinguished Theosophists from India and the West were invited so that the unquenchable thirst for Wisdom would be satisfied a little more ; and the Executive Committee is glad to say that their efforts were crowned with success in furthering knowledge and understanding. Thus the membership is increased unprecedentedly. But with the increase of membership, the responsibility of older members, as well as of the Executive Committee and the National Secretary, is increased proportionately and the Committee is continually deliberating how best the problem of maintaining interest in Lodges situated in the heart of Africa, whose membership is also increasing, can be furthered.

*Lodges.*—There were 13 Lodges last year.

During the year under review, seven new Lodges have been formed—4 in Kenya and 3 in Tanganyika, bringing the total to 20.

The formation of all these Lodges and the creation of interest and enthusiasm in others are mainly due to the nine months indefatigable activities of our respected Brother Sitaram Upadhyay of Surat (India), who was specially invited by the three Mombasa Lodges to take part in the proceedings of the last Annual Convention. All the members of this Section looked with great satisfaction on his achievements and honored him with a grand reception by the Executive at its Headquarters at Zanzibar.

*Convention.*—The Fifth Annual Convention of this Section took place at Mombasa during the Christmas holidays, 24th to 26th December, 1954, under the

auspices of the three Mombasa Lodges, and was a great success.

At the invitation of Bharat Lodge, Chake-Chake, Pemba, the next annual Convention will be held during Christmas from 24th to 26th December, 1955, at Chake-Chake, Pemba.

*Publicity Work.*—The Society does not keep itself aloof or separate from other organizations. Almost all the Lodges keep their platform open to local social, religious, educational and cultural organizations, so as to enlist their support and sympathy for the Society's activities. People need sympathy and understanding of the intricate problems of life and in order to do this more effectively they attend our meetings when any well-known Theosophists from India and abroad visit this country. Our Lodge meetings and public lectures are always kept open for anyone who cares to attend them and I am glad to say that our public lectures are always well attended.

*Theosophical Books.*—Good stocks of Gujarati and English books have been recently ordered by the National President for the use of the members.

*Overseas Visitors.*—This Section had the good fortune of having among its visitors four distinguished Theosophical workers and lecturers:

1. Mrs. Mary Elmore, 2. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson; 3. Mr. Pizzighelli; 4. Mr. Sitaram N. Upadhyay.

They were well received by the President and Members of the Executive Committee and the Lodges they visited. Public as well as members' meetings were arranged when the distinguished visitors delivered lectures and talks, which were very much appreciated by all present.

The visits of the first three lecturers were very short and the Executive hopes that in future they may try to spare some more time for this Section. Short though their visits were, we feel certain that they

were highly successful, as their talks made an indelible impression of the value of Theosophy on the English-speaking public.

The work of Mr. Sitaram has no parallel in the history of East Africa and he will ever be remembered in East Africa as long as the Society exists.

*Lodge Meetings.*—Lodge meetings are held regularly on week-days according to the convenience of the members.

Commemorative days such as Foundation Day, Adyar Day, Leadbeater Day, Vaishaki and Guru Purnima Days were duly observed and lectures and talks appropriate to the occasions were given by the older members of the Lodges,

*Important Move.*—It is interesting to note that at a combined meeting of all the three Lodges of Mombasa, held at the Hindu Union Gita Hall in May last, it was decided to have a joint meeting of all the three Lodges once a month. Since then this meeting was held on the 1st Wednesday of each month; and I am glad to say that it has now decided to have a Hall of our own where Theosophical meetings can be held. As a stepping-stone it is decided to hire a hall at a monthly rent of Shgs. 200/-, each mem-

ber contributing Shgs. 2/- per month for that purpose. It is a good augury for the future. The lead taken by the Mombasa Lodges has been followed by the Nairobi Lodge, which, too, has decided to build a Hall of its own.

I heartily congratulate the members of these Lodges for their unabating enthusiasm for the noble cause.

*Obituary.*—With very great regret I have to record the passing away of our dear brother P. D. Master, Founder-President of Mombasa Lodge and one of the members of the Executive, on 4th April 1955. It was through his efforts and sacrifices that the Mombasa Lodge saw the light and in whose service he worked incessantly until his death. His mature advice and help were always sought by all. He was a pillar of Theosophy in East Africa and we pay him our sincere tribute and pray that his soul may rest in peace.

*Conclusion.*—In conclusion, I pray that the work which was begun in His Name be continued to His Glory and enhance the minds and souls of all seekers after Truth.

V. H. KAPADIA,

*General Secretary.*

## PAKISTAN

The Theosophical Society in Pakistan was established as a Presidential Agency on 1st October 1948. This is, therefore, the report of the seventh year of its activities. During these years we have had to overcome a number of initial difficulties. Due to Partition, a majority of the Hindu members, who formed the main strength of the Lodges of Pakistan, left the country. Only a few were left in some places to guard some of the existing Lodges. Other Lodges had to close down

altogether. In addition to this, the work of the Lodges had to be re-oriented to an entirely new population. Pakistan, being a new country, was faced with many difficult problems, and the situation in the country is still somewhat unsettled. Large numbers of people remain to be rehabilitated in spite of the best efforts of our Government and our people. All this continues to present obstacles in the way of our work. Nevertheless, it also presents unusual opportunities to

experiment with new techniques and new approaches.

*Strength.*—Lodges in Lahore, Multan, Larkhana and Sukkur in West Pakistan, and Maguira and Narail in East Pakistan, became inactive soon after Partition. Three Lodges in Karachi, one in Hyderabad, Sind, and one in Quetta, as well as two Lodges in East Pakistan, at Comilla and Jessore, remained active. Due to the very long distance dividing East and West Pakistan, no contact could be made with the two Lodges in the Eastern part for five years, except by correspondence. Due to the passing away of two members in Jessore, the Lodge ceased to have the requisite number to keep as a Lodge and has become a centre. On the other hand, during the last year, a new Youth Lodge was formed at Hyderabad and work in Lahore was revived as a centre. We thus now have seven Lodges and two centres functioning in Pakistan, with a total membership of 270 members.

*Activities.*—Karachi functions as the most active Lodge of the Section with a membership of nearly 140. Its activities have continued without abatement in spite of many difficulties. The Lodge conducts a study class in elementary Theosophy and one at the advanced level. It also provides weekly lectures open to the public on Theosophical and other subjects. Besides members, several other persons outstanding in other fields of work are invited to speak from its platform. A members' meeting is held every month, and at these, play-reading, introduced as a new feature, has been found interesting. All the Lodges celebrate important Theosophical anniversaries, also the United Nations Day and the Human Rights Day, as well as religious occasions in some places.

The work of the Theosophical Order of Service is active at Karachi where members participate in several forms of

useful service to the community. Institutions working for the relief of poverty and sickness continue to function at the Lodge premises, helped by Theosophists. Members also participate in the progressive development of social work along new and scientific lines, some members leading the work in this direction. The President of the Karachi Lodge was invited to participate in the first U.N. World Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders held at Geneva in August 1955. The T.O.S. group is affiliated to the Pakistan United Nations Association and the Social Services Co-ordinating Council at Karachi.

*Section Magazine.*—The Karachi Lodge for many years used to bring out a monthly Bulletin of its activities and programme. From August 1955, this little news sheet has been expanded into an eight page Section Bulletin, which besides giving news of all the Lodges in the Section, prints Theosophical articles. In the coming year we hope to extend the Bulletin into a magazine, both in English and in Urdu.

*Visits.*—During the year under report, the Presidential Agent visited Lodges in Hyderabad, Comilla and Jessore. Dr. Michael Alexander, who worked with our Section for six months, visited Lodges and centres in Karachi, Lahore, Hyderabad and Quetta. The Section was visited by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, who gave two public lectures. Mrs. Roy Snyder, who was in Karachi for six months in connection with the work for the blind, gave some talks to the Karachi Lodge. Mr. M. Subramaniam, National Lecturer for India, visited Karachi and gave several public lectures. All these visits were deeply appreciated by the members as well as the public and have helped to strengthen the work of the Section.

*Properties.*—The very valuable properties of the Lahore and Multan Lodges,

occupied in the early years of Partition by the refugees, have not yet been recovered. Legal steps have been initiated to recover these properties. The building of the Karachi Lodge constructed in 1911, and having grown old and unsuitable, has now been demolished and a new structure is planned to take its place. The work of the new building will be undertaken in the beginning of 1956. When completed, it will present a beautiful edifice to enshrine Theosophy's great teachings and the name of a great Theosophist, the late Mr. Jamshed Nusser-

wanji, for whom it is intended to be a memorial.

*Development of the Section.*—Now that we have seven full Lodges in Pakistan, we shall soon be able to apply to the President for transforming the Presidential Agency into a full-fledged Section. This will help to co-ordinate the work of the Section, bringing workers in all parts of the country together in the national work. We hope this will soon become possible.

GOOL MINWALLA,  
*Presidential Agent.*

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## MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

No Report

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## NORTHERN IRELAND

The Theosophical Society in Northern Ireland has had a year of steady work, with more vitality showing itself than in several preceding years. Belfast Lodge, under the presidency of Miss Dorothy Fowler, has maintained its usual programme of two public meetings each week as well as regular weekly meetings for members and a *Secret Doctrine* study group meeting twice a month; so the Lodge has been making progress and new contacts. The Lodges in Bangor and Coleraine have held meetings for members and the public, the latter meeting in the seaside towns of Portrush and Portstewart as well as in Coleraine. Total membership is 70.

At the annual Convention in May, 1955, Miss Caroline Davey of Liverpool was our guest speaker, and also visited all our Lodges. At the Convention Miss Wynnne Logan was elected Treasurer in place of

Mr. Alfred Hoy who retired after five years of good service. As well as Miss Davey, visiting lecturers during the year under review included the late Mr. J. J. van Ginkel, Mrs. Hornidge and Miss Mary Graham.

After six years of negotiations, the European Federation amended its constitution so as to admit the Theosophical Society in Northern Ireland to membership of that Federation, and application for membership has accordingly been made.

As many members are engaged in social and humanitarian work through other organizations, it has not been felt necessary to organize a separate branch of the Theosophical Order of Service in Northern Ireland; but 200 lbs. of goods were sent during the year to assist the work of that body for European refugees.



Members have been happy to feel that they are being represented at the School of the Wisdom in 1955-56 by Mr. Charles

H. Hunter, for fourteen years a popular and helpful member of Belfast Lodge.

HUGH SHEARMAN,  
*Organizing Secretary.*

## VIET NAM

*Membership.*—The morale of the members after the election of the Administrative Council is in an excellent state, although there is still some difficulty. Given time, unity will re-establish itself. Our present efforts are tending towards this goal. The present membership is 350, which shows an increase of 42.

*The Magazine "Dao Hoc".*—Two thousand copies are printed each month. It is the official organ of the Section and we are doing all that is possible to keep it alive, despite difficulties of finance.

*Publications.*—We continue to expand the distribution of our magazine and of Theosophical works. The translation of the volume: "*L'Evolution Occulte de l'Humanité*" ("The Occult Evolution of Humanity") is finished. The printing of a book *Practical Theosophy* is in hand.

*Lectures.*—At present public lectures are suspended, due to the political situation in our country, but we have members' talks.

*Library.*—Endowed with more than 300 books, of which the greater number are in French, the Library is open every day, though it is little frequented. The works in Vietnamese are almost all translations of French books.

*The Orphanage.*—This is a social work which was started under the auspices of the Society but which is dependent almost entirely on Mr. Nguyen-van-Luong and Mme. Luong, helped by other donors. The undertaking costs \$17,000 per month. The number of children being brought up is 33. A large number of people are

much interested in the Orphanage, which is a social work much esteemed by the Government and the people. A lottery is organized to support the work.

*Finances.*—Our receipts are scarcely sufficient to cover our expenditure. We have still in the bank \$4,000 but this will soon be exhausted.

*The Lodges.*—Among the seven Lodges, one is no longer functioning, that of the Young Theosophists. Two new Lodges have just been formed, one at Hue and one at Soctrong. The most active Lodges are those at Chaudoc and Hue; their subjects are very varied and their meetings most regular. The other Lodges carry on in their usual manner.

*Visit of the President, Mr. Sri Ram.*—The visit of the International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, roused unanimous enthusiasm in Theosophical, Buddhist, Caddaique and Hindu circles. Everywhere our International President was warmly received. A visit to the ruins of Angkor was organized and special numbers of *Dao Hoc* were devoted to his visit. These magazines were written in three languages, English, French and Vietnamese, and were distributed to the National Sections throughout the world.

*Conclusion.*—We are living in a difficult age and we are doing our best. The Theosophical tree in Viet-Nam already bears good fruit, and at present it is sound and robust. It is true that at this moment some black clouds are appearing on the horizon, which threaten it. But we have the firm hope that these clouds will

soon be dispersed by a favorable wind. In any case, we are sure that the tree will remain healthy.

Taking the symbol of the bees which go foraging in the daytime and which

make honey in the dark, we work silently, having faith always in a glorious future which awaits us.

PHAM-NGOC-DA,  
General Secretary.

## STATE OF ISRAEL

Our Theosophical work in Israel being still in its initial stage progressed during the year 1954-55 steadily and encouragingly although, of course, on a modest scale only. With four new admissions, one transfer from the American Section and one death the total number of members by the end of September, 1955 was 25.

In November, 1954, the President, Mr. Sri Ram, introduced a change in the administration of our activities by appointing Mr. Hans Zeuger to the office of Presidential Agent in place of Dr. I. S. Cohen. There are now two full Lodges and one centre operating in Israel, viz.:

1. The "Galilea" Lodge in Safad, mainly busy during the period under reference with the compiling and editing of our *Mitteilungsblatt* (News Bulletin).

2. The "Covenant" Lodge in Tel-Aviv which held its regular meetings—very well attended sometimes by visitors as well as members from all parts of the country—twice monthly, and

3. The Jerusalem Centre which started its activities in June, 1955, with fortnightly meetings even during the summer months.

In March, 1955, Mr. Hans Zeuger, the Presidential Agent, after having received an invitation from Dr. E. Bloch, Chairman of the local "Oneg Shabbath" Circle, lectured in Naharia, a sea-shore resort near Haifa, on "Ancient Wisdom and Modern Science in the Light of Theosophy". The lecture was very well

received and may lead to further contacts in the future.

In spring, 1955, we were happy in welcoming our first Theosophical visitor from India in the person of Mr. Duncan Greenlees, who spoke on two different occasions on "The Gospel of Israel", drawing a most enthusiastic picture of our little State as to its worldly accomplishments and its spiritual aims.

Together with a number of members from the *Galilea* Lodge in Safad, we celebrated White Lotus Day in Tel-Aviv in a very peaceful atmosphere. Parts of the *Bhagavad Gita* and *The Light of Asia* were read as usual and, in addition, a chapter of the Old Testament *Cohemoth* was recited by Mrs. Channah Mot, President of the *Galilea* Lodge, in the German language while Mr. Lissod gave us the original in Hebrew. In the second part of the evening Mrs. Berthe Dominic, President of the *Covenant* Lodge, charmed us with a piano-recital of the *Parsifal Overture* and Mr. Hans Zeuger read his mystic play *Die Berufung* (The Call) depicting a Holy Convention of the Occult Hierarchy in the Temple Palace of Shamballa.

As mentioned above, the Jerusalem centre was formed in June, 1955, and there are good prospects of its being converted into a full Lodge in the not too distant future.

HANS ZEUGER,  
Presidential Agent for Israel.

## JAPAN

No Report

## VENEZUELA

During the year ending September 30, 1955 the following activities have taken place in this Section.

*New Members.*—We have had 11 new members join the various Lodges, plus one who was transferred from the Lodge at Trieste in Italy to this Section.

*Members Lost.*—During the year in question 15 members have been lost to the Section, some having left the country and others through voluntary absence, without notice given.

*Visits.*—From August 17 to 24 we had the pleasure of a visit from Miss Helen Zahara, who delivered four public lectures, and three more to members; her presence among us proved of the greatest advantage to all.

*Lodges.*—Lodge *Vargas*, which worked in the city of Macuto, has transferred to this city of Caracas, as the majority of its members have changed their residence to this place. Each Lodge in the Section is working regularly, holding weekly meetings.

*Services.*—The work of Theosophical teaching by correspondence continues

throughout the whole country. At Christmas we distributed toys and sweets to poor children. We sent to the fund for providing food to the Refugees in Greece, who are being assisted by the T. S. in Switzerland, the sum of \$100.00. In the month of February we sent \$129.00 collected from members for "Adyar Day". We sent as a donation the sum of \$127.76 for the Olcott Harijan Free Schools at Adyar.

As a piece of special information I have to inform you that on October 2, in accordance with our Rules, the election of the General Secretary for a period of two years took place, the undersigned being re-elected. There were also elected members of the Executive Committee as follows: Victor Mileo, Carlos Blanco Rey, Nicolas Jimenez, Maria Amelia de Bonilla, Fremiot Valarino and Pedro Izquierdo.

With the greetings of all the members of our Section.

PABLO BONILLA T.,  
*General Secretary.*

## CANADIAN FEDERATION

Steady progress is again reported in the Lodges in the Canadian Federation. Statistically our numbers are less than last year. This is accounted for by the fact that a number of members in one of our cities wished to transfer to the Canadian Section. This, however, still

makes them active, enthusiastic workers for Theosophy, and in no way affects the number of members in Canada as a whole. This has meant the temporary closing of the Lodge in that city but it is anticipated that it will not be long before this situation is rectified.

On the Pacific Coast the Lodges have been very fortunate in having lectures from Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Pearson and Mr. Seymour Ballard. Unfortunately, owing to the great distances to be covered it was not possible for these lecturers to visit the other Lodges. The visits of these lecturers were greatly appreciated. They had good audiences and were received with enthusiasm in each case.

A number of members from the coast Lodges travelled to Seattle for the Pacific Coast Conference in November, 1954, some of our Canadian Federation members participating in the panel discussions. This opportunity was very much ap-

preciated, and it is hoped that some of our members will be able to attend this year's conference in San Francisco.

While no new Lodges have been formed this year, study groups have sprung up in the interior and northern parts of British Columbia, mainly organized by members of the Lodges on the coast who have moved to these parts to live. There is no surer way for a study group or Lodge to start than for an enthusiastic member to move to a new town and take up his or her residence there, and so spread the message of Theosophy.

JOAN S. MORRIS,  
*Secretary.*

## THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION

In reporting this year's work, the International President's visit to Europe must be mentioned in the first place. Beginning his extensive lecture tour at the end of April in Athens (Greece), he visited in succession the Italian and Austrian Section and the German-speaking part of France. After presiding over the English, Scottish, French and Netherlands Conventions, he further visited Sweden, Finland, Norway and Denmark where he attended the summer school at Gl. Praestegaard, before attending the German summer school at Rendsburg. On his way to Holland to preside over the European Council Meeting at the Huizen Centre, he also paid a short visit to Belgium.

It is difficult to realize how strenuous these extensive lecture tours really are and how much we owe to him. Indeed we cannot be too grateful to our President for all the inspiration he brings everywhere and for his beautiful lectures.

The European Council Meeting, held at Huizen from August 10-12 was presided

over by the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram; nine Sections were officially represented. It was decided to hold a European Congress next year in Geneva.

The German-speaking regional summer school was held, as last year, at Pichl in Austria in the beginning of September.

Some 60 members from Austria, Germany and the German-speaking part of Switzerland, grouped together. Amongst those present were Mrs. Fanny Scheffmacher and the Swiss and Austrian General Secretaries, Mrs. Claire Wyss and Mr. Fr. Schleifer.

The French-speaking regional summer school was presided over by Mr. Sassi, and was held in Louette St. Pierre in Belgium from September 5-12. Some 50 members took part, including a good number of young people.

The British Isles and Ireland regional Committee met as usual in London at Whitsuntide.

The meeting of the French-speaking Regional Committee was held in Brussels



this year. Mr. George Tripet, representing Switzerland, attended and gave the public lecture.

The new Regional periodical in the French language, *Clarté*, is meeting a long felt want.

*Theosophy in Action* and *Adyar*, edited respectively by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner and Dr. N. Lauppert, are continuing to give their valuable contributions. The European Federation owes great gratitude to the Editors of the three papers for their continued splendid work.

There is still little news from behind the Iron Curtain.

The Young Theosophists in Europe held a camp in Geneva from July 31-August 7, grouping 17 members from 7 different countries. The keynote was International Integration.

A semi-official Camp was further organized during the International Week at Huizen and was attended by 25 young people of 6 nationalities.

There is a close contact with Young Theosophists in Europe who are more and more taking part in our work. Their own periodical *Enthousiasme* is well edited and appears in the French, English and German languages.

Mrs. Rukmini Devi last December paid a visit to the Huizen Centre. From there she went to Brussels, where she gave a public lecture, before flying to Geneva, where she also lectured and gave a dance recital.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson made an extensive lecture tour in the British Isles last spring and attended the English Convention. He also paid a visit to the Huizen Centre and lectured in Amsterdam.

Mdlle Pascaline Mallet gave much appreciated lectures in Antwerp, Ghent, Brussels and Liege, while Mr. John Coats made a lecture tour in Scandinavia last spring. In February of this year he lectured in Germany and Austria, visiting at the same time many refugee camps.

The work for refugees, started in Geneva through the initiative of Madame de Berg, has already obtained excellent results. This work is bringing much credit to the T.S. and bringing Theosophy and Theosophists to the notice of the public. Mrs. Betsan Coats has visited the refugee camps in Italy, Austria and Germany and started an independent organization on an international basis for the helping of all the camps.

If we can report on a successful year of increasing activities, it is well to remember at the same time that the Theosophical Society is a Movement of pioneers and that it is expected from the Theosophical Society in Europe and its members, to give, amidst the fast changing world conditions taking place everywhere, a spiritual lead to a Europe struggling for its unity.

J. E. VAN DISSEL,  
General Secretary.

## THE WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

No Report

# HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 20

## OFFICERS

1954—1955

### Executive Committee :

- (1) THE PRESIDENT
- (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT
- (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY
- (4) THE TREASURER
- (5) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI
- (6) DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI
- (7) MISS ANN KERR
- (8) MR. K. S. RAJAGOPALAN
- (9) MR. S. G. VENKATARAMANAN

*Ex-officio*

**Archives :** MISS K. A. BEECHEY.

**Adyar Library :** DIRECTOR : MR. ALAIN DANIELOU ; ASSISTANT DIRECTOR : MRS. RADHA S. BURNIER ; LIBRARIAN : MRS. MARY G. PATTERSON.

**Bhojanasala :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

**Dispensary :** MEDICAL OFFICER : DR. E. SUNDARESAN.

**Engineering Department :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. M. D. SUBRAMANIAM.

**Garden Department :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. K. NEELAKANTAN; ADVISER: MR. N. YAGNESVARA SASTRY.

**Laundry :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. M. V. GOPALAKRISHNA IYER.

**Leadbeater Chambers :** SUPERINTENDENT : MISS FLORENCE N. PULSFORD

**Legal Adviser :** N. K. CHOKSY, ESQ., Q.C.

**Medical Consultant :** DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI.

**Post Office :** MR. V. SRINIVASAN, SUB-POSTMASTER.

**Sanitation and Hygiene Officer :** MADAME P. CAZIN.

**School of the Wisdom :** PRINCIPAL : MR. N. SRI RAM ; DIRECTOR OF STUDIES : MR. GEOFFREY HODSON.

**The Theosophical Publishing House :** MANAGER : MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

**The Vasanta Press :** JOINT DIRECTORS: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI, MR. K. RAMANATHAN; MANAGER : MR. D. V. SYAMALA RAU.

**Watch and Ward Department :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1954-55

The year has been one of steady progress in the re-organization undertaken during the previous year. Intensive work has been carried on in all the departments of the Library.

*The Council.*—The Council decided, with the approval of the President, to include the Librarian as an ex-officio member. Meetings of the Council were held on 19-2-1955 and 19-4-1955.

*Staff.*—In February, Mrs A. Siitaa Devii, who has given devoted service to the Library since 1946, expressed a desire to be relieved of her post as Librarian. Her request was considered and accepted by the President and the Council, and Mrs. Mary G. Patterson was appointed in her stead. Mrs. Patterson, who belongs to the American Section, has been a staff-member of "Olcott" for several years. Mrs Siitaa Devii continues to help the Library in the work of re-classification.

Other additions to the staff are as follows : Mr. G. Subramaniam as an Assistant in the Office and Mr. M. S. Ramamoorthy as Copyist. Dr. K. Kunjuni Raja and Mr. E. Fernandez have been giving some part of their time to the Library.

*Repairs.*—A department for the repair of manuscripts and books has been organized. Working under the special instructions of the Director, Mr. E. Fernandez has been assisting in the department. This will make it possible for fragile Mss. to be put into use again, and to extend the life of rare and valuable books.

*Music Workshop.*—Half-verse indexes of 75 Sanskrit works on Music have been made; also indexes of technical terms (with explanations) of the Nāṭya Sāstra of Bharata, Chapters 1-13 and the Simha-bhūpāla commentary on the Sangita Ratnakāra, Chapters 5-7. In addition, indexes of extracts on Sanskrit Musical literature in the Journal of the Andhra Historical Research Society and the Journal of the Music Academy have been made. This work has been carried on under the special guidance of the Director, by Pandit N. Ramachandra Bhat, assisted by Pandits Ramanuja Iyengar, K. T. Venkatarama Sarma and N. Sambandan.

*Āgama Workshop.*—The preparation of the text of the Lakṣmi Tantra has been completed and a translation of the text is being made. Pandit V. Krishnamacharya, assisted by Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma, has been responsible for this work.

*Transcripts, Collations and Microfilms.*—Transcripts were made of the Sangita Siromani, Sangitanārāyaṇa, Hastaratnāvali and Anuparagāsāgara and 29 other works ordered by outside institutions and individuals. Collation work has been done on the Rāgamāla, Nandikesvarakasika, Viśnudevarmottara extracts on Sangita and the Kohaliyasikṣa. Besides, there were two collations by order; one of which was the collation of Saundaryalahari with 11 manuscripts including textual variants based on different commentaries, made for Professor Norman

Brown, Head of the Department of Sanskrit in the University of Pennsylvania.

This work has been also under the care of Pandit N. Ramachandra Bhat, who has been assisted by Pandit V. Narayanaswami Sastri and Pandit S. Nigamanthacharya. Several Mss. belonging to other Libraries were microfilmed. A microfilm of the Visnu Dharmottara was obtained from the Vienna University. Transcripts of the Sangitaratnākara Vyākhyā and Bharatārṇava were ordered from Mysore Oriental Research Institute.

*Re-Classification.*—The work has proceeded at a very encouraging rate. The Eastern and Theosophical sections including the Journals have been completely re-classified and re-catalogued. Work is progressing on the Western section. More than 25,000 books and over 2,500 journals have thus been put in order during the year. Mrs. R. Burnier, Mrs. Mary G. Patterson, Mrs. A. Siitaa Devii, Mr. Henry J. van de Poll, Pandits K. T. Venkatarama Sarma, V. Hanumanthachar and others have been engaged in this work.

*Accession.*—Forty-nine new palm-leaf manuscripts, which were purchased from Sri T. S. Subrahmanya Sarma of Tirunelveli, have been accessed during the year. The number of new books accessed amounts to 1,483. This includes a gift from the Bollingen Foundation of the complete set of their valuable publications. We are also grateful to Mrs. A.D. Kanga for having given us 274 books of the late Mr. D. D. Kanga's Library as well as a number of journals. We have also received in exchange for our publications 21 books from the Library of Congress, 302 of the Chowkhamba Sanskrit Series and 26 from the Indian Institute of Culture, Bangalore.

*School of the Wisdom Library.*—The Adyar Library has been designated as repository and custodian of the books

belonging to the School numbering over 1,700. These books were received in the spring ; they have since been catalogued, and are kept as a separate collection from which the School selects those needed for any period of study. This arrangement ensures good care of the books during the summer months when the School is not in session.

*Bulletin.*—The number of subscribers for the Bulletin has been slowly but steadily increasing during the year. We have also several new exchanges with other journals, notably the following : East and West, the Journal of the Italian Instituto per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente, Acta Orientalia published by the Czechoslovak Academy of Oriental Studies and the Journal of the Kern Institute. The exchange with the Royal Asiatic Society has also been renewed.

*Publications.*—There have been no publications other than the Bulletin. But the catalogue of publications has been widely distributed among learned institutions and universities, and there has been a satisfactory increase in sales. The prices of our publications have also been revised.

An agreement has been made with the Firm Brill in Holland giving them exclusive rights for the sale of our publications abroad. They have also printed a catalogue of our publications. The Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, remains our agent for sales in India.

*Borrowers and Readers.*—There has been an increase in the number of readers and of the books consulted. The borrowers are necessarily few as the Library is a specialised one and provides only material for the serious student. We hope, however, to acquire a good collection of modern works on philosophy and religion which would attract a greater reading public.



*Visitors.*—Professor Jean Filliozat, the well-known French Orientalist, who is organizing the new Institute for Oriental Studies in Pondicherry, visited the Library several times. Among the other visitors to the Library were the members of the Chinese Delegation to India ; the High Commissioner of Pakistan to India ; Mr. Henry C. Ramsay, American Consul in Madras ; Prof. I. A. Richards of Harvard University ; Mr. Stephen Spender, well-known writer ; Mr. D. L. Banerjee from the National Library at Calcutta ; and Mr. Wing-tsit Chan,

Professor of Chinese Culture and Philosophy at Dartmouth College, U. S. A.

The needs of the Library remain more or less the same as at this time last year. We still require funds, an adequate building, and additions to our manuscript and book collections.

All donations and contributions are as usual welcome.

We tender our gratitude to all donors, helpers and well-wishers of the Library.

ALAIN DANIELOU,  
*Director.*

*Publications.*—There have been no publications other than the Bulletin. But the catalogues of publications have been widely distributed among learned institutions and universities, and there has been a satisfactory increase in sales. The prices of our publications have also been revised.

An agreement has been made with the Film Unit in Holland giving them exclusive rights for the sale of our publications abroad. They have also printed a catalogue of our publications. About twenty new agents for sales in India, Europe and America.

*Donations and Receipts.*—There has been an increase in the number of donors and of the books donated. The donors are necessarily few as the Library is a specialized one and provides only material for the serious student. We hope, however, to acquire a good collection of modern works on philosophy and religion which would attract a greater reading public.

*Acquisition.*—Forty-nine new printed manuscripts which were purchased from Shri S. Subramanya Swami of Tirunelveli have been accessioned during the year. The number of new books accessioned amounts to 1487. This includes a gift from the Bollingen Foundation of the complete set of their valuable publications. We are also grateful to Mrs. A. D. Kanga for having given us 234 books of the late Mr. D. D. Kanga's Library as well as a number of journals. We have also received in exchange for our publications 21 books from the Library of Congress, 302 of the Chowkhamba Sanskrit Series and 36 from the Indian Institute of Culture, Bangalore.

*Stock of the Western Library.*—The Asian Library has been designated as repository and custodian of the books in this work.

## THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

### REPORT ON THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR 1954-55

The Session of the School of the Wisdom for 1954-55 was opened at a meeting held at Olcott Bungalow on the morning of October 4, 1954. Owing to the absence of the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who was abroad, Miss Emma Hunt, the Recording Secretary, presided. The Director of Studies, Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, in his inaugural address, first shared some general personal experiences of his travels since he had last left Adyar, and then spoke to the enrolled students, emphasizing that in all their studies together the essential factor was complete freedom of thought and opinion. He went on to say that the Wisdom which would be studied was not man's wisdom but the Ancient Wisdom of Theosophy given to mankind by the Adepts. The School of the Wisdom was Their School and all its work should ideally be done in Their name and for Them. A certain mental poise and self-recollectedness would, therefore, be most beneficial not only whilst here but throughout life. To help in attaining this the School day started with group meditation in which the students were taken step by step into the higher realms of consciousness. This was a most helpful experience for them, especially as the processes involved were carefully explained and illustrated with many diagrams. The habit thus formed during the six months of the School, together with detailed instructions in meditation on many occasions should greatly assist any student who wishes to continue this practice.

Many visiting speakers, experts in their own line of knowledge, visited the

School and contributed valuably to its work. These were:

Mr. N. Sri Ram, Principal  
Miss E. Hunt, Recording Secretary  
Miss E. W. Preston, M.Sc.  
Mr. M. Subramaniam, M.A.  
Mr. Duncan Greenlees, M.A. Oxon.  
Professor R. Srinivasan, M.A.  
Miss Sandra Chase, National Lecturer for the New Zealand Section  
Dr. C. R. Kamath  
Mrs. Radha S. Burnier, M.A.

The Director of Studies led the students in courses of studies on the purpose and goal of human existence; the nature, involution and the evolution of the Monad of man; the human Ego, its formation, nature, states of consciousness, appearance and descent into incarnation; the etheric double, its nature, functions and appearance in health and ill health; the astral body, its functions and appearance at different stages of evolution and modes of feeling and the meaning of colours; the mental body and the powers of the mind; the auric envelope; the life after death; reincarnation and karma, individual and national; the seven rays; man in health and disease, including psychosomatic medicine; man's cosmic powers and the law of correspondences; the solar system and its composition; the officials concerned with its inner direction; life on other planets according to both modern science and occult research; the evolution of man to perfected manhood or adeptship; the Earth's Adepts; the Adept Brotherhood and its august Head; the Feminine aspect of

Deity, the World Mother ; ideals of human love, marriage, parenthood, child training and the causes, prevention and correction of youthful delinquency.

The study of man was followed by expositions of Cosmogogenesis, the Logos Doctrine, the Creative Hierarchies, the Angelic Hosts and the Nature spirits of the four elements of earth, water, air and fire ; the science of Yoga ; the theory and practice of meditation ; the fourth dimension ; the laws of the spiritual life, discipleship and Initiation ; World Religions, exoteric and esoteric ; the sacred language of allegory and symbol and the Serpent Fire ; the symbolism of the Old and New Testaments and other Scriptures ; the Kabala or Secret Wisdom of the Hebrews ; and the theory and practice of Theosophical lecturing. Questions were freely asked and answered and discussions frequently arose during Mr. Hodson's expositions.

Well-informed members of different Religions, particularly Zoroastrianism and Hinduism, helped with their special knowledge, Sanskrit scholars frequently chanting and reciting Scriptural passages in that language.

The specialized activities of the Theosophical Society at Adyar were visited, the Heads of each Department graciously receiving the students and explaining the work of the Department. The following visits were paid :

Adyar Library and Museum ; Bhojana-sala ; Dispensary ; Garden Department ; Power House ; Laundry ; Archives ; Lead-beater Chambers ; T.P.H. and Bookshop ; Recording Secretary's Office ; the Vasanta Press ; Kalakshetra ; Besant School, when a beautiful incense burner painted and decorated by the pupils of the School

according to their own design was kindly presented to the School of the Wisdom, where it is a pleasing and colorful ornament.

Outings to various temples in the neighbourhood of Madras were arranged from time to time, the Director of Studies and the students visiting Conjeevaram, Tiruvalangadu, Tiruvellur, Mahabalipuram (Seven Pagodas) and Tirukalikundram.

On Gita day, by special invitation, the Director and students were guests of a Hindu student at lunch at the Bhojana-sala. Chanted extracts from the Bhagavad Gita then followed.

There were nineteen enrolled students, most of whom attended regularly throughout. Many observers joined the students from time to time, some spending a few days at the School and others a week or more as their circumstances permitted.

The students, recognizing the value of Mr. Hodson's lectures for their own use and in Lodge and public work, asked him to have his notes published in book form ; although this has entailed a tremendous amount of extra work for him he readily agreed. The whole work will shortly be ready from the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar.

The Director of Studies never spared himself in any way, freely giving not only of his time and energy, but also of his deep knowledge and wisdom. This will surely benefit all who were privileged to attend, both during the rest of this life but for ages to come. Mr. Hodson was always willing and most anxious to help every student in every way possible, and each felt that in him he had a friend who could always be approached.

FRANCES CARNALL,  
Secretary.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY  
FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

MEMORANDUM  
OF  
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd.) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,  
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Station, Madras,  
Dated 3rd April 1905.



# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy  
and Governor-General of India in Council, being  
an Act for the registration of literary,  
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are :

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

## GENERAL COUNCIL

### *Ex-Officio*

*President-Founder*:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

*Vice-President*:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

*Recording Secretary*:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

*Treasurer*:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

*Additional*

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded the Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth

in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration

or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the mem-

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ..  
 „ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..  
 „ PYARE LAL ..  
 „ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

bers of the Society present personally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this . . . day of March 1905.

{ (Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT  
 „ W. A. ENGLISH  
 „ SUBRAMANIAM  
 „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE  
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU  
 „ ANNIE BESANT  
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

# RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. Not less than seven members of this Council shall be residents of India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not less than 5 and not more than 10 Additional Members, among

whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of The Society excepting the President of the Theosophical Society and excepting the General

Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not less than five members.

4. The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of The Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

5. At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

*Note :* Meetings include Adjourned Meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of The Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and

shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years.

10. Six months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Recording Secretary shall call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council, each of whom shall be entitled to make not more than three nominations. Such call to members outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails. Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary shall consult with the respective National Governing Council and shall make his nominations on its behalf. Nominations of any member or members in good standing, whose consent as laid down hereunder shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination, shall be sent to the Recording Secretary, so as to reach him within two months of the date of the call for nominations.

At the expiration of this period the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received along with the relevant papers before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the consent of the nominated member has not been filed in the office of the Recording Secretary within the period of two months just preceding shall be rejected as invalid. The rest shall be counted, and the names of those receiving the three highest numbers of nominations, (or any lesser number



of names, if less than three are nominated) together with any others who have been nominated by not less than half the members of the General Council, but after eliminating any who in the meantime have died or who have withdrawn their consent to nomination and subject only to the provisions of the next following paragraph, shall be those to be voted upon. The list made by the Executive Committee shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall immediately in writing communicate all the names on the list to each nominee thereon (if the nominee is not at Adyar the communication shall be by telegraph or cable). In the event of any death or withdrawal the corresponding name shall be struck from the list.

On the tenth day following the meeting of the Executive Committee for the examination of nominations, the Recording Secretary shall communicate the list of nominees remaining to be voted upon, to the General Secretaries, and to Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar. Such communications to the General Secretaries outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air mail and ordinary mail, and to the others by air mail confirmed within two days by ordinary mail. Each General Secretary shall take the individual vote of each of the voter-members of his Section, that is, of members of the National Society on his rolls who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Section, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary, who shall himself take the votes of the Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Society at Adyar.

If only one member is nominated the vote so taken shall be on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of six months from the call for nominations by the Recording Secretary, the results of the voting shall be counted by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected to the office of President.

If the voting results in the highest number of votes being given equally to two or more of the nominees, or if the voting upon the "For" or "Against" ballot results in the rejection of the one member receiving nomination, or if the death of any nominee occurs before the counting of the votes and the declaration of the result, the nomination and election procedure herein provided shall be repeated and the President then in office or the Vice-President, if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President is elected.

11. (a) The President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council, and his term of Office shall continue till a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of The Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by

the General Council. In case of death, resignation or permanent disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee at its next following meeting, and shall continue to be valid unless rejected by a majority of votes of the whole number of members in the Executive Committee, voting in person or by proxy, at the said meeting, the newly appointed Treasurer or Recording Secretary not being present, nor counting as a member of the Executive Committee for purposes of such vote.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee of his own to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit,

and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not less than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum..

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of The Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of The Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of The Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of either of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the Imperial Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following, the President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and one other person appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President

may, touching the assets and affairs of The Society beyond India, at any time and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of The Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of The Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of The Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property movable, or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to subdelegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of The Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of The Society in Madras including The Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions

of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of The Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to The Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of The Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of The Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

*Note.*—The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of The Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for

the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

#### HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of The Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

#### ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

29. Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge, the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary ; and a Diploma of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

30. Lodges and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, residing within the territory of a National Society, must belong to that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the sanction of the President a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the



opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any

action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge, when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas directly to the Recording Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge. In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of The Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of The Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of The Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges.

(b) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) certificates of Federation to any national group of Lodges not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such Federation necessary or desirable. Any such Federation may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Federation business.

A Federation shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in

these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Federations and to their chief executives.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Agents to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of The Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Agent shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges and all Diplomas of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of The Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

37. Each Lodge and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows : In the case of a Lodge belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not situated within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society must appoint a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T. S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

#### FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges not comprised within the limits of any National

Society are as follows : for Charter, £1 ; for each Diploma of Membership 5s. ; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, 5s. ; but in the case of Lodges comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, the Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their annual subscription *pro rata* for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of £0-1-3 per quarter.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulation of such National Society, but not less than 5/- and £1 respectively.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5/- and an Annual Subscription of £1.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury ten per cent of the total amount received for its own National dues, and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year, and the financial year of The Society shall close on 30th September.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Agents to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge, granted by the President, shall *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest as follows :

(a) in The Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge coming under Rule 31 (c), (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided)—and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in The National Society in which the Lodge is situated, in the case of a Lodge within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of The Society except for the purpose of vesting in The Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge, as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges being not less than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less

than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in The Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which The Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to The Society.

45. The financial accounts of The Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

#### MEETINGS

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of inviting the

Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.

#### REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of The Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.



# DIRECTORY FOR 1956

## *Ex-Officio Members of General Council*

**President :** MR. N. SRI RAM

**Vice-President :** MR. SIDNEY A. COOK

**Recording Secretary :** MISS EMMA HUNT

**Treasurer :** MR. EDWIN N. LORD

## General Secretaries and Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States	... Mr. James S. Perkins	... P. O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois
1888	England	... Mr. C. R. Groves	... 50 Gloucester Place, London, W. 1
1891	India	... Sri Rohit Mehta	... Theosophical Society, Banaras 1
1895	Australia	... Mr. J. L. Davidge	... 29 Bligh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
1895	Sweden	... Herr Elis Wikström	... Östermalmsgatan 12, Stockholm
1896	New Zealand	... Mr. W. E. B. Dunningham	... 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, S.E. 3
1897	Netherlands	... Mr. B. Wouters	... Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam Z.
1899	France	... Monsieur Francis Brunel	... 4 Square Rapp, Paris VII
1902	Italy	... Dr. Giuseppe Gasco	... 14-Piazza Gherbiana, Mondovi-Breo, Prov. Cuneo
1902	Germany	... Direktor Martin Boyken	... Hagenau 15, Hamburg 23
1905	Cuba	... Señor Armando Alfonso Ledón	... P. O. Box 365, Habana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Miss Signe Rosvall	... Vironkatu 7C, Helsinki
1908	Russia	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia	...	...
1909	Southern Africa	... Mr. I. G. Mitford-Barberton	... P. O. Box 2284, Cape Town
1910	Scotland	... Mrs. Jean Allan	... 17 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, C. 4
1910	Switzerland	... Madame Claire Wyss	... Bruderholzstrasse 88, Basle
1911	Belgium	... Monsieur Th. Chapellier	... 334 Rue Vanderkindere, Uccle-Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia	... Mr. Soemardjo	... Blavatskypark 5, Merdeka-Barat 17 Djakarta, Java
1912	Burma	... U Po Lat	... No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon
1912	Austria	... Herr F. Schleifer	... Paracelsusgasse 4, T. 6, Vienna III/40
1913	Norway	... Herr Erling Havrevold	... Bjornslettve. 2b, Lilleaker, Oslo
1918	Egypt	...	...
1918	Denmark	... Herr J. H. Möller	... Strandvejen 130a, Aarhus
1919	Ireland	... Mrs. Evelyn O. Hornidge	... 31 Pembroke Road, Dublin
1919	Mexico	... Señor Adolfo de la Peña Gil	... Iturbide 28, Mexico, D. F.
1919	Canada	... Lt.-Col. E.L. Thomson, D.S.O.	... 52 Isabella Street, Toronto 5, Ont.
1920	Argentina	... Señor Enrique O. Gossweiler	... Casilla Correo No. 238, Rosario
1920	Chile	... Señor Ricardo Michell A.-P.	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1920	Brazil	... Tenente Armando Sales	... Rua Anita Garibaldi 29, 11º andar, Sao Paulo
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Gretar Fells	... Ingólfsstr. 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain	...	...
1921	Portugal	... Mr. Felix Bermudes	... Rua Passos Manuel, No. 20-cave, Lisbon
1922	Wales	... Miss E. Claudia Owen	... 10 Park Place, Cardiff

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1923	Poland	...	...
1925	Uruguay	Señor Mario Radaelli	Palacio Diaz, 18 de Julio 1333, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	Señora Esperanza C. Hopgood	Box 8774, Fernandez Juncos, Santurce
1925	Rumania	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia	...	...
1926	Ceylon	Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q. C.	Roshanara, 54 Turret Road, Colombo
1928	Greece	Monsieur Kostis Melissaropoulos	3 Ethnikis Trapezis Square, Filothei, Athens
1929	Central America	Señor Miguel Monge Echandi	P. O. Box 797, San José, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay	...	...
1929	Peru	Señor Segundo Rodriguez (Actg.)	Apartado 2718, Lima
1933	Philippines	Dr. Benito F. Reyes	P. Florentino corner Iba Streets, Quezon City
1937	Colombia	Señorita Corina Martinez Sanders	Apartado Postal 539, Bogotá
1947	East Africa	Mr. Vallabhdas H. Kapadia	P. O. Box 354, Zanzibar
1948	Pakistan	Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla	Noonan Road, Karachi 3
1948	Malaya and Singapore *	Mr. V. Rajagopal	P. O. Box 752, Singapore
1949	Northern Ireland †	Dr. Hugh Shearman	18 Brookhill Ave., Belfast
1950	State of Israel *	Mr. Hans Zeuger	P. O. Box 1264, Jerusalem
1951	Japan	...	...
1952	Viet-Nam	Mr. Pham-Ngoc-Da	Directeur de l'Ecole des Filles, Chaudoc, Sud Viet-Nam
1953	Venezuela	Señor Pablo Bonilla T.	Apartado 2907, Caracas

### Additional Members of the General Council

MR. R. M. ALPAIWALLA, 179 Lamington Cross Road, Bombay 7 (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. J. E. VAN DISSEL, Dirk Boutsiaan 18, Eindhoven, Holland (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. H. S. L. POLAK, 49 Earls Ave., The Leas, Folkestone, England (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, United Kingdom (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1955, 1956 and 1957).

MISS ANN KERR, Assistant Recording Secretary, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

MR. GEOFFREY HODSON, The Theosophical Society, 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand, (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

\* Presidential Agency } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the  
 † Federation } General Council.

## MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society, held in the H.P.B. Room at Headquarters, Adyar, on Saturday, 31st December, 1955 at 10.00 a.m.*

### PRESENT :

Mr. N. Sri Ram	.. President (in the Chair). Proxy for the General Secretaries for the Theosophical Society in England, the Theosophical Society in Scotland, the Theosophical Society in Finland, the Theosophical Society in Italy and for Mr. H. S. L. Polak, Additional Member.
Miss Emma Hunt	.. Recording Secretary, and Proxy for the General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Central America.
Mr. Edwin N. Lord	.. Treasurer.
Mr. Rohit Mehta	.. General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in India.
Mr. N. K. Choksy	.. General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Ceylon.
U Po Lat	.. General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Burma.
Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla	.. Additional Member.
Miss Ann Kerr	.. Additional Member, and Proxy for the General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in America.
Srimati Rukmini Devi	.. Additional Member, and Proxy for the General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Switzerland.
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti	.. Additional Member.

1. *Confirmation of Minutes.*—The Minutes of the meetings of 25th December and 28th December, 1954, having been circulated to the Members of the General Council, were taken as read and were adopted and signed.

### 2. *Matters arising out of the Minutes :*

(a) *Amendment to Rule 10 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.*—To receive Report of the Committee appointed by the General Council. The

Rule 10 Committee proposed, in the report submitted by its Secretary, that as amending the Rule is a very important step, all the proposals, comments and suggestions so far received should now be submitted to the members of the General Council. After receiving their opinions and comments on the whole and any further suggestions, the Rule 10 Committee should meet again and formulate its recommendations to be put to the General Council. This proposal was accepted.

(b) *The Theosophical Society in France.*—The President explained to the Council the developments in the French Section. During the year he had personally contacted representatives of those who had left the Section and later, in June, presided over the Section Convention in Paris. Professor Selleger's Report had been sent in the meanwhile to all members and the ex-members. Certain steps were taken at the French Section Convention to remove the objections of those who had gone out of the Section and to make it easy for them to come back. He (the President) sent out a letter after the Convention of the French Section explaining these steps and urging those who had left the Section but had still the cause of Theosophy at heart, to rejoin. So far this communication has not had any effect. He has had letters from some members saying that all this is not enough, but those in office at present should quit and leave the Administration to be carried on by others. The President did not think it right to put forward this suggestion. The Section is autonomous, and those who are in office are there, properly elected. The President is continuing his efforts to induce the ex-members to rejoin. In his view, they ought to have made a response to the steps that had been taken under his guidance. There are still a few applications from individual members for direct affiliation to Adyar. The President read out the names. The general sense of the Council, as expressed at the meeting, was to the effect that in any case, except for these few individual applications, no others should be considered in the existing circumstances.

3. (a) *Amendment to Rule 20 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society as recommended by the Executive Committee at its meeting held on 26th February, 1955.*—The amendment to Rule 20 having obtained the required majority of votes, was declared adopted as follows (changed portion in italics):

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the Imperial Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by *any two of the following, the President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and one other person appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.*

In favour	..	44
Against	..	Nil

(b) *Change in name of Imperial Bank of India.*—The President informed the Council that the name of the Imperial Bank of India had been changed to State Bank of India; he said that it had not caused any difficulty in our dealings with the Bank but we should alter the words in our Regulations (Rule 20) accordingly.

It was resolved to submit the proposal to the members of the General Council for their vote.



4. *Election of four (4) Additional Members of the General Council for the years 1956, 1957 and 1958.*—The undermentioned members were declared duly elected as Additional Members of the General Council for a period of three years (1956, 1957 and 1958). The results of the voting were as follows:

		No. of Votes	
		In favour	Against
Mr. Geoffrey Hodson	..	44	—
Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla	..	43	—
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti	..	44	—
Mr. H. S. L. Polak	..	44	—

5. *The Treasurer's Report for 1954-55.*—The audited financial statements of the Society for the official year ended 30th September, 1955, presented by the Hon. Treasurer with his report and recommended by the Executive Committee for adoption, were given consideration and approved.

6. *The Budget for 1955-56.*—The Budget estimates for the year ending 30th September, 1956, passed by the Executive Committee at a meeting held on December 28th, 1955, were adopted as detailed:

## THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1955-56

EXPENSE	Budget for 1954-'55	Actuals for 1954-'55	Budget for 1955-'56	INCOME	Budget for 1954-'55	Actuals for 1954-'55	Budget for 1955-'56
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages ...	31,000	29,256	32,000	Rent ...	53,000	51,342	52,000
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	30,220	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	24,000	26,907	24,000
Garden Expenses ...	43,340	42,651	44,290	Conservancy Charges ...	1,400	1,354	1,400
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,776	7,000	Garden Income ...	33,350	24,652	33,950
Light and Water ...	4,500	3,632	4,000	Casuarina ...	2,000	2,344	2,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ...	3,000	3,273	3,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Printing and Stationery ...	4,000	3,342	3,500	Interest (Gross) ...	38,000	40,232	40,000
Publications to General Secretaries ...	800	647	800	<b>Special Departments:</b>			
Sanitation Expenses ...	4,900	4,447	4,900	Engineering Department ...	1,06,900	1,04,807	1,13,480
Taxes ...	14,500	14,254	14,500	Vasanta Press ...	1,18,800	1,39,615	1,41,690
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	9,000	10,201	10,000	Laundry ...	5,500	4,936	5,200
Convention ...	2,000	1,873	3,000	Donations		49,292	
Watch and Ward ...	13,000	11,139	13,800	Deficit ...	50,660	6,753	52,910
<b>Contributions:</b>							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Dispensary ...	3,500	4,032	3,500				
President's Travelling Fund ...	6,600	6,600	6,600				
Museum and Archives ...	500	33	100				
The School of the Wisdom ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Bhojanasala ...	1,000	2,414	900				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	2,000	2,008	2,000				
Depreciation ...	17,500	18,315	17,800				
<b>Special Departments:</b>							
Engineering Department ...	1,06,900	1,10,272	1,13,480				
Vasanta Press ...	1,18,800	1,37,353	1,41,690				
Laundry ...	6,900	6,626	6,900				
	4,40,740	4,59,364	4,73,760		4,40,740	4,59,364	4,73,760

For The Theosophical Society,  
**EDWIN N. LORD,**  
*Hony. Treasurer*

7. *The Appointment of Auditors for 1955-56.*—It was resolved that Messrs. V. Soundararajan & Co., Registered Accountants, be re-appointed Auditors for the year 1955-56 on the same remuneration and the same terms and conditions as in the previous year.

8. *Appointment of the Executive Committee for 1956.*—The following members were appointed:

President	}	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
Vice-President		
Recording Secretary		
Treasurer		
Miss Ann Kerr		
Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan		
Srimati Rukmini Devi		
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti		
Mr. S. G. Venkataramanan		

9. *Award of the Subba Row Medal.*—The President proposed that the Subba Row Medal be given to Mr. Rohit Mehta for his contribution to Theosophical literature.

The Council approved this proposal.

10. *Any other business:*

(a) *Library of Tape and Wire Recordings.*—Mr. J. E. van Dissel, the General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Europe, and Mr. I. G. Mitford-Barberton, the General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Southern Africa, had both suggested that the Council explore and consider the possibility of creating at Adyar a library of tape and wire recordings of lectures by prominent workers of the Society for use throughout the Society.

The view of the Council was that, in general, matters of publicity and propaganda should be taken up by the General Secretaries of the Sections. The International Headquarters will co-operate with them in any way possible. The development of such a library at Adyar would be a matter for the President to explore.

(b) *Message from the General Council to the U.N.*—The General Secretary for the Netherlands Section, Mr. B. Wouters, had suggested that the General Council of the Theosophical Society issue an Address to the U.N. expressing the general attitude of the Society as regards world affairs.

The question was discussed, and the Council decided to take no action in the matter.

(c) *Use of Signs and Pass-words in the Theosophical Society.*—Mr. C. S. Trilokekar, Adyar, had suggested to the President that the Council be asked to give consideration to reinstituting the practice of using signs and pass-words in the Theosophical Society,

The decision of the Council was against the reinstitution of the practice, as the question had been very carefully considered during Dr. Arundale's Presidentship by

a Committee appointed for the purpose and the considerations which then prevailed were still valid.

(d) *The Theosophical Society in Peru.*—The President explained that a situation had arisen in Peru in which he would like to have the advice of the General Council. The General Secretary, styled National President in Peru, Mr. Jorge Torres Ugarriza, who had held that office for a long period of years, resigned his post some months ago rather suddenly. Following his resignation a meeting was held which was described as a General Assembly of the Peruvian Section to elect a new National President and other officers for a certain period. This meeting was, however, regarded by certain Lodges as not properly convened, and it was stated that a number of members who were not in good standing were allowed to vote at this meeting. Thus a situation came into existence in which some Lodges and members support the officers elected at the meeting and others continue to support Mr. Jorge Torres Ugarriza as still the Section President. The meeting also framed a set of rules or statutes to replace the statutes hitherto in force, but these rules cannot become effective, under the international Regulations, without approval by the President at Adyar. In the circumstances the question is: Whom are we to recognize as the chief officer of the Section? The Rules of the Peruvian Section—those hitherto in force—state (Art. 15): "In case of vacancy of office—through death or irrevocable renunciation of the General Secretary—the Vice-President of the Council will assume his functions." The President was of opinion that Mr. Jorge Torres Ugarriza having definitely resigned, the Vice-President, Mr. Segundo Rodriguez, should step into his position and arrange in due course, in accordance with the Rules of the Section, for a General Assembly of members in good standing to elect whom they will to the various positions to be filled. He (the President) thought that the only right course was for him to communicate with the Vice-President, Mr. Segundo Rodriguez, to this effect, recognizing him as the proper authority to deal with the situation that exists.

The General Council fully agreed with this view.

EMMA HUNT,  
Recording Secretary.



## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1955

National Sections (Active) ..	41	No. of	No. of
Presidential Agencies (Active) ..	3	Lodges	Members
Federations formed under Rule 35 (b) ..	1		
Total Lodges (1955) ..	1,372		
Total Membership :			
1954 ..	32,566		
1955 ..	32,902		
Increase ..	336		
	No. of	No. of	
	Lodges	Members	
1. United States of America ..	147	4,070	
2. England ..	117	3,284	
3. India ..	426	6,428	
4. Australia ..	16	1,217	
5. Sweden ..	20	389	
6. New Zealand ..	19	977	
7. Netherlands ..	37	1,633	
8. France ..	47	1,494	
9. Italy ..	31	1,026	
10. Germany ..	20	472	
11. Cuba ..	23	392	
12. Hungary ..	—	—	
13. Finland ..	22	549	
14. Russia ..	—	—	
15. Czechoslovakia ..	—	—	
16. Southern Africa ..	14	655	
17. Scotland ..	19	275	
18. Switzerland ..	12	258	
19. Belgium ..	12	338	
20. Indonesia ..	21	750	
21. Burma ..	7	71	
22. Austria ..	13	312	
23. Norway ..	9	166	
24. Egypt ..	—	—	
25. Denmark ..	13	373	
26. Ireland ..	4	51	
27. Mexico ..	26	549	
28. Canada ..	10	382	
29. Argentina ..	62	1,443	
30. Chile ..	10	148	
31. Brazil ..	32	856	
32. Bulgaria ..	—	—	
33. Iceland ..	10	334	
34. Spain ..	—	—	
35. Portugal ..	11	250	
36. Wales ..	7	183	
37. Poland ..	—	—	
38. Uruguay ..	7	114	
39. Puerto Rico ..	7	107	
40. Rumania ..	—	—	
41. Yugoslavia ..	—	—	
42. Ceylon ..	9	213	
43. Greece ..	7	220	
44. Central America ..	9	158	
45. Paraguay ..	—	—	
46. Peru ..	8	117 (1954)	
47. Philippines ..	14	204	
48. Colombia ..	15	162	
49. East Africa ..	20	627	
50. Pakistan * ..	7	270	
51. Malaya & Singapore* ..	4	107 (1952)	
52. Northern Ireland † ..	3	70	
53. Viet-Nam ..	8	350	
54. State of Israel* ..	2	25	
55. Japan ..	—	—	
56. Venezuela ..	8	83	
57. Canadian Federation ..	8	227	
58. Libertad Lodge (Argentina) ..	1	22	
59. Fellows-at-Large ..	—	12	
60. Lodges and members attached to Adyar ..	15	207 (1954)	
	3	282 (1953)	
Total ..	1,372	32,902	

EMMA HUNT,

Recording Secretary.

\* Presidential Agency.

† Federation.

